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THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BAE

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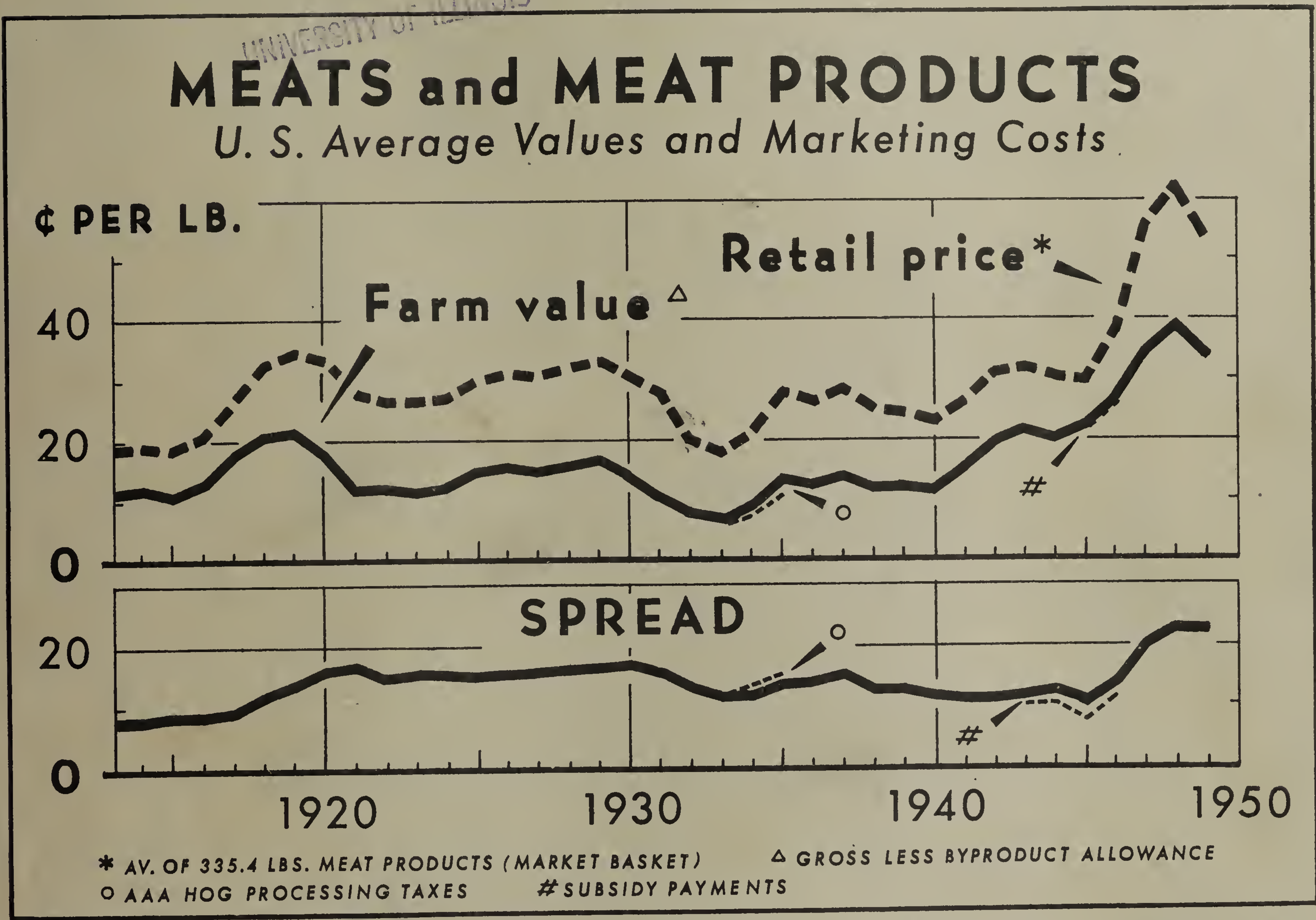
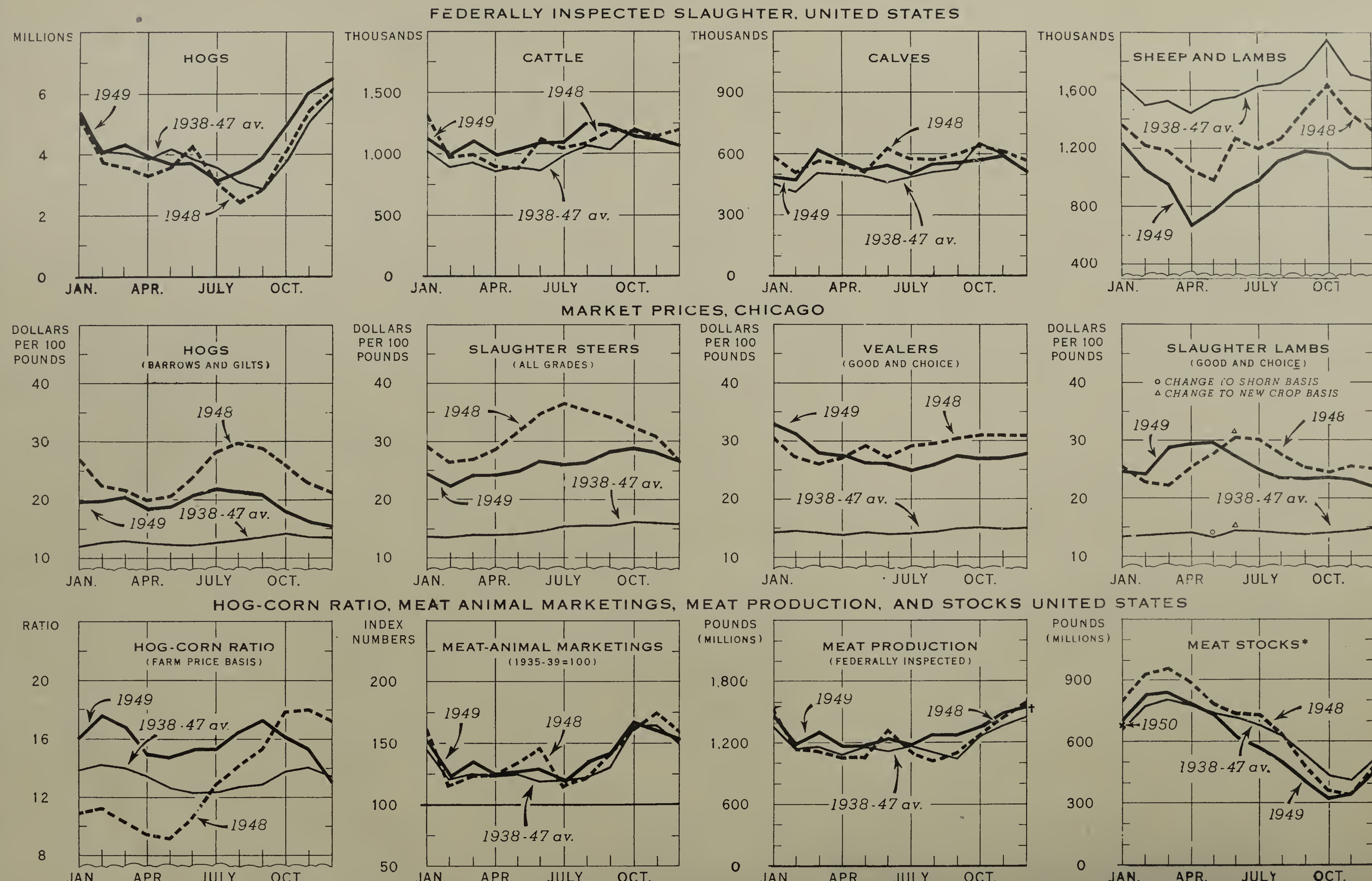


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46676-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

In 1949 retail prices for all meats combined averaged 10 percent lower than in 1948. The marketing charge was about the same in both years. The average farm value, therefore, fell a little more than retail prices - about 13 percent. Farmers received 60 cents of the consumers' retail meat dollar last year, compared with 63 cents in 1948 and a prewar average of 50 cents.

The marketing charge, which includes marketing, processing and distribution costs, usually changes slowly, partly because a number of cost items are nearly fixed. Although the total charge as calculated for all meat animals and meats was slightly smaller in 1949, that for many individual kinds and grades was slightly higher (see text beginning page 13).

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

†ESTIMATED

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE — NEG. 47129 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUAT

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, January 27, 19

SUMMARY

In mid-January the United States Department of Agricultur offers of pork to be purchased for price support purposes. Mark hogs were unusually large the first part of January. Midwest rec second week approached those of early December and exceeded any o week since 1944. Market prices of hogs rose slowly, scarcely keeping pace with the week-to-week increases in support guide levels. However as late as the week ended January 28 market prices had remained equal or above supports and no purchases of pork had been made. Any purchas under the announcement are to be confined to smoked hams, smoked pork shoulder picnics, and bacon, and will be used for school lunches and institutional feeding.

Hog marketings in the next month are expected to decrease more than seasonally. Hog prices are expected to rise. A moderate price rise is indicated by the schedule of support prices, which increase from $14.90 per 100 pounds, farmers' price basis, in January to $16.20 in March, the last month of the present support program. No announcement has been made regarding support of hog prices after March 31.

Marketings of hogs in February may be no larger than last year, but by April and May they will be considerably above the same months of last year. Larger August and September farrowings accounted for most of the 10 percent increase in the fall pig crop of 1949, and hogs from farrowings in those months will be marketed mostly in the 2-3 months beginning in April.

Prices of cattle of each grade have been steady for a number of weeks, with those of the top grades unusually high in relation to prices of the lower grades. Marketings of steers grading Good and better have been small, and Medium grades have predominated. As the feeding season progresses, the number of steers in the higher grades will increase, and their prices may decline moderately. No extreme drop is expected because the number of cattle on feed is practically unchanged from last winter and farmers report plans to market fed cattle later this year than they did in 1949.

The increase of 22,000 head or 0.5 percent in the number of cattle on feed this January 1 from last was made up of a 5 percent larger number in the North Central States, 12 percent more in Texas, and a substantially smaller number in the Western States.

The number of sheep and lambs on feed January 1 was down 7 percent from last year. Substantial increases occurred only in wheat-pasture areas of Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. Decreases were rather large in Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, and Indiana; in California and a number of other Western States; and in New York. The reduction in the total number on feed was due to the smaller lamb crop.

range conditions in the West have been better this year than
tle and sheep have been in better condition. Severe storms
the Northwest in January, but reported range losses throughout
e been much smaller than a year earlier.

d storage holdings of pork were increased more in December 1949
cember 1948, but holdings of pork and of all meat on January 1,
about average.

roduction of pork in the January-March quarter will probably be a
arger than last year and production of beef a little smaller.
nsumption per person for the quarter may be a fraction of a pound
than last year. Production and consumption in the second quarter,
in 1950 as a whole, are expected to be larger than last year.

Marketing charges, including processing and distribution costs, r individual meats increased slightly in 1949 over 1948. Prices of all meats except lamb were lower, and the percentage of the retail meat dollar going to marketing charges increased from 37 to 40 cents. The 60 cents received by farmers was considerably higher, however, than the 50 cents of the retail dollar received by them in 1937-41. Marketing charges are usually slow to change, and in the next few years when a gradually increasing output of meat is likely to bring a slow decline in retail prices, the farmers' share of the retail meat dollar may decrease somewhat more.

OUTLOOK

Hog Marketings Large in January; Prices Hover at Support Guides

Marketings of hogs increased rapidly the first part of January as the holiday season ended. In the week ended January 14, 912,000 head were received at 12 markets and by direct purchases in Iowa and southern Minnesota. This number was the most for any week since the spring of 1944 except for two weeks last December. The 1,552,000 head slaughtered under Federal inspection the week of January 14 was 13 percent above the same week last year and except for 3 weeks in December was the largest weekly slaughter since December 1947. Marketings fell off moderately the middle of January, but continued a little larger than those of corresponding weeks last year.

Average market weights have increased. Barrows and gilts received at 7 midwest markets the middle of January averaged about 240 pounds, up 5 pounds from the average of 235 pounds in December. The uptrend in weights this winter is about average for the season; a similar increase occurred in January 1949, and weights this January are still below those at the same time last year.

The large numbers of hogs marketed in January suggest that many farmers held back hogs in December for a seasonal rise in price after the first of the year. A higher price was expected on the basis of usual market trends but was made more likely by the seasonal adjustments in announced price support levels. An advance in market prices that began in

early January scarcely kept pace with the increases in support guides. Prices at 7 markets the week ended January 14 were almost exactly the same as the support guide, and the following week were only 7 cents above the guide. On January 17 the Production and Marketing Administration invited packers to submit offers for sale of pork, which it could accept in supporting market prices of hogs. Purchases were to be confined to smoked hams, smoked pork shoulder picnics, and bacon because those cuts store well and are adapted for school lunch and institutional distribution, which were expected to be the initial outlets for pork purchased in support operations. With market prices holding at or above the weekly guides, as late as January 28 no purchases had been made.

The USDA's announcement pointed out that orderly marketing of hogs by farmers can be the most important single factor in maintaining hog prices above support levels, and that price support purchases will not be fully effective if market gluts occur.

Price Discount for Heavy Hogs Widens

As average market weights of hogs became heavier, price differentials widened between medium and heavy weights. During much of last fall the differentials were rather narrow despite a weak demand for lard and fat cuts, chiefly because the supply of light to medium weight barrows and gilts increased greatly and heavier hogs became comparatively scarcer. In 3 weeks of January the differential between 200-220 and 240-270 pound barrows and gilts at Chicago averaged $1.07 per 100 pounds or 7.1 percent. In January last year the differential was 7.7 percent, and in 1937-41 the average for the month was 4.0 percent (table 1).

Cattle Prices Steady; Medium Grades Predominate in Steer Marketings

Prices of beef steers for slaughter have been unusually steady in all grades the last three months. Choice and Prime beef steers at Chicago have averaged around $37.00 per 100 pounds, Good steers $29.00, Medium $24.00, and Common $19-20.00. (table 2). Compared with last year, the price spreads between grades are unusually wide. In 3 weeks of January, Choice steers averaged $7.18 above the price a year earlier, but Medium steers were only $1.62 higher than last year.

Premium prices for Good and Choice steers have been brought about by small marketings of these grades, and have had a limited effect in holding over-all average cattle prices much above those last year. The average price for all steers at Chicago in 3 weeks of January was $26.33, only $1.98 above the $24.35 received in January last year, and the United States average price received by farmers for all beef cattle in mid-January was $.60 lower than the $20.00 received a year earlier.

Medium grades have predominated in receipts of beef steers for slaughter at the 3 markets for which data are reported. At Chicago in December, 62 percent were graded Medium, the highest percentage of that grade for any month since February 1947. In the previous December, 34 percent were Medium.

Table 1.- Average weight of barrows and gilts and relationship of prices per 100 pounds of heavy barrows and gilts to prices of medium weights, Chicago, by months, average 1937-41, annual 1949

Month	1937-41 average: Average weight	1937-41 average: Price per 100 pounds, Barrows & gilts, Good & Choice: 200-220 pounds	1937-41 average: 240-270 pounds 1/	1937-41 average: Differential		1949: Average weight	1949: Price per 100 pounds, Barrows & gilts, Good & Choice: 200-220 pounds	1949: 240-270 pounds 1/	1949: Differential	
	Pounds	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent 2/	Pounds	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent 2/
January	3/ 237	7.97	7.66	+0.31	+ 4.0	255	21.36	19.84	+1.52	+ 7.7
February	3/ 243	8.11	7.84	+ .27	+ 3.4	254	20.94	19.81	+1.13	+ 5.7
March	3/ 249	8.14	7.96	+ .18	+ 2.3	256	21.48	20.65	+0.83	+ 4.0
April	3/ 247	8.01	7.88	+ .13	+ 1.6	250	19.14	18.72	+ .42	+ 2.2
May	3/ 244	8.27	8.18	+ .09	+ 1.1	257	19.26	19.03	+ .23	+ 1.2
June	3/ 240	8.53	8.39	+ .14	+ 1.7	250	21.51	20.89	+ .62	+ 3.0
July	3/ 238	9.47	9.13	+ .34	+ 3.7	242	22.30	21.42	+ .88	+ 4.1
August	3/ 236	9.39	9.07	+ .32	+ 3.5	231	21.91	21.73	+ .18	+ 0.8
September	224	9.58	9.50	+ .08	+ 0.8	215	20.95	21.25	- .30	- 1.4
October	220	8.53	8.53	0	0	222	18.15	18.34	- .19	- 1.0
November	224	7.82	7.80	+ .02	+ 0.3	232	16.29	16.05	+ .24	+ 1.5
December	231	7.71	7.51	+ .20	+ 2.7	239	15.97	15.17	+ .80	+ 5.3
Year	234	8.46	8.29	+ .17	+ 2.1	242	19.94	19.41	+ .53	+ 2.7

1/ 250-290 pounds prior to July 1939.
2/ Percent of price for 200-220 pound hogs.
3/ Average of weights for 4 years.

Table 2.- Price of slaughter steers by grades at Chicago and of all beef cattle as received by farmers, and number and percentage distribution by grades of slaughter steers received at Chicago, September-January, 1948-49 and 1949-50

Month	1948-49						1949-50					
	Price at Chicago of beef steers for slaughter					Average price received by farmers for beef cattle	Price at Chicago of beef steers for slaughter					Average price received by farmers for beef cattle
	Choice and Prime	Good	Medium	Common	All grades		Choice and Prime	Good	Medium	Common	All grades	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
September	38.91	34.49	27.59	22.63	34.03	23.30	31.33	28.22	23.01	17.83	28.11	20.00
October	37.06	32.24	25.95	21.68	32.05	21.20	34.27	29.63	23.24	18.48	28.93	19.50
November	36.28	30.68	25.80	22.01	30.71	20.80	36.25	29.35	24.26	19.02	28.21	19.20
December	32.56	27.82	24.09	21.28	26.78	20.40	37.77	29.91	24.50	19.23	26.47	19.00
January 1/	29.41	24.72	22.41	20.49	24.35	20.00	37.13	28.55	24.29	20.04	26.33	19.40
February	25.61	22.99	20.49	18.39	22.25	18.70						
March	25.88	24.19	22.58	21.21	24.14	20.50						
	Number of slaughter steers received at Chicago											
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head		1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	
September	16.6	29.8	11.3	4.4	62.1		24.3	42.7	16.7	2.1	86.0	
October	12.4	25.7	6.9	4.2	49.2		18.2	39.4	21.5	2.6	81.7	
November	12.2	34.2	11.0	3.1	60.5		10.9	30.4	29.3	2.2	72.8	
December	5.6	34.8	22.9	3.8	67.1		2.0	17.8	37.1	2.9	59.7	
January 1/	6.3	44.8	23.4	3.3	77.8		1.7	17.0	26.7	1.5	46.9	
February	6.5	37.9	29.4	2.1	75.9							
March	15.9	49.4	19.3	2.6	87.2							
	Percentage distribution by grades of receipts at Chicago											
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
September	26.7	48.0	18.3	7.0	100.0		28.3	49.7	19.5	2.5	100.0	
October	25.2	52.1	14.1	8.6	100.0		22.3	48.2	26.3	3.2	100.0	
November	20.1	56.5	18.2	5.2	100.0		15.0	41.8	40.2	3.0	100.0	
December	8.3	51.9	34.1	5.7	100.0		3.3	29.8	62.1	4.8	100.0	
January 1/	8.1	57.6	30.1	4.2	100.0		3.6	36.2	56.9	3.3	100.0	
February	8.6	50.0	38.7	2.7	100.0							
March	18.3	56.6	22.1	3.0	100.0							

1/ For January 1950, data are averages for first 3 weeks.

In most years Medium steers form a larger part of steers marketed at this season than at any other time of the year. In spring and summer months, cattle are marketed after a longer feeding period and therefore carry more finish and are graded higher. The percentage of Medium grade cattle may have been above average this year because a larger number of cattle apparently were marketed after a relatively small grain feed, and because some feeders, remembering the February price breaks in each of the last two years, may have marketed stock early this year. However, in another sense the percentage of Medium grades may have been high because a larger number of cattle were classified as high Medium, just below the dividing line between Medium and Good. That Medium steers perhaps were in above-average finish for that grade is suggested by their heavy weights this winter--1,061 pounds at Chicago in December, the heaviest average for that grade since October 1933. Heavy weight is usually associated with higher finish.

Meat Production to be About Equal to Last Year Through First 3-4 Months

The quantity of meat produced may be about the same as a year earlier in the first quarter, but later is likely to exceed 1949 levels. Bases for this prospect are (1) the monthly distribution of farrowing dates for the 1949 fall pig crop, which shows that the increase in number of sows farrowing last fall was concentrated in August-September and was small in other months; and (2) the later dates of expected marketings of fed cattle.

In 3 weeks of January, 4 percent more hogs were slaughtered under Federal inspection than in the same weeks of 1949. It is likely that the increase for all commercial hog slaughter in the entire month was slightly less than 4 percent, which would be the smallest increase reported for any month since last July. Last August, 35 percent more hogs were slaughtered commercially than in August 1948. The percentage comparison became smaller each month thereafter (table 3).

The large increase in the number of hogs slaughtered last August had two origins: Feeding for faster growth and marketing at lighter weights, resulting in a younger age of marketing than a year before; and the earlier dates of spring farrowings in 1949 than in 1948. Although 15 percent more sows farrowed in the spring of 1949, three-fourths of the increase in numbers came before April 1. In April and May, the number of sows farrowing was up only 8.6 and 3.2 percent, respectively.

The fall pig crop of 1949 was 10 percent larger than the 1948 fall crop, but the difference was concentrated in the major farrowing months of August and September. In the beginning and ending months of the fall season, June and November, the increases were only 1.5 and 0.5 percent.

Table 3.- Change from previous year in number sows farrowing by months compared with change in number hogs slaughtered commercially 8 months later, 1948-49

Month	Number sows farrowed 1948	Number sows farrowed 1947	Percent change	Month	Number of hogs slaughtered commercially, 8 months lag 1949	Number of hogs slaughtered commercially, 8 months lag 1948	Percent change
	1,000 head	1,000 head			1,000 head	1,000 head	
Nov.	398	342	+ 16.4	July	3,809	3,771	+ 1.0
Dec.	304	263	+ 15.6	Aug.	4,187	3,104	+34.9
	1949	1948					
Jan.	471	367	+ 28.3	Sept.	4,749	3,699	+28.4
Feb.	1,001	762	+ 31.4	Oct.	5,895	5,084	+16.0
Mar.	2,655	2,150	+ 23.5	Nov.	7,105	6,496	+ 9.4
Apr.	3,122	2,874	+ 8.6	Dec.	7,622	7,322	+ 4.1
5-month total	7,553	6,416	+ 17.7	5-month total	29,558	25,705	+15.0
May	1,597	1,548	+ 3.2				
June	753	742	+ 1.5				
July	639	582	+ 9.8				
Aug.	1,208	1,002	+ 20.6				
Sept.	1,801	1,549	+ 16.3				
Oct.	925	885	+ 4.5				
Nov.	400	398	+ 0.5				

Since farrowings in 1949 compared with the previous year increased least in May-June, slaughter this winter will likely show the smallest gain over last year in January-March. Slaughter during February will probably fall off at more than an average seasonal rate, and the February total may be little different from last year. The quantity of pork produced in February could be moderately below last year, since slaughter weights may continue lighter than in matching weeks of 1949. March slaughter is expected to be somewhat larger than last year, and a big increase over 1949 is expected in April and May. In contrast with last year when March slaughter was one-tenth or more larger than April or May slaughter, this year slaughter in April and perhaps even in May could surpass March.

Slightly More Cattle on Feed January 1; Expected Marketing Dates Later

The 4,552,000 cattle reported on feed January 1 this year was a new high. This year's number was 22,000, or 0.5 percent, more than on the same date of 1949. The North Central States had 5 percent more on feed and Texas had 12 percent more, but each Western State had fewer on feed this year than last. In Colorado the reduction was 6 percent, and in California 24 percent.

In the North Central region, increases were reported for all States except Minnesota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

Table 4.- Number of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, on feed January 1, by regions, 1932 to date

Cattle and calves

Year	Penna.	North Central States: East North Central	West North Cent.: 3 Corn Belt 1/	West North Cent.: 4 2/ Plains	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States: Colorado	Western States: California	Western States: Other Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1932	53	618	1,013	726	160	90	60	158	2,878
1933	53	687	1,105	813	143	75	61	143	3,080
1934	56	593	1,083	735	98	96	77	152	2,890
1935	76	579	890	339	60	87	71	113	2,215
1936	84	750	1,130	640	145	120	100	233	3,202
1937	84	740	947	333	125	144	138	248	2,759
1938	92	840	1,199	452	192	143	152	266	3,336
1939	78	855	1,166	530	194	125	125	230	3,303
1940	74	944	1,330	522	194	135	163	271	3,633
1941	72	1,002	1,509	639	230	138	169	306	4,065
1942	70	961	1,521	772	251	162	128	320	4,185
1943	80	993	1,612	928	264	160	154	254	4,445
1944	75	905	1,517	802	172	158	134	252	4,015
1945	70	907	1,642	1,020	210	160	125	277	4,411
1946	82	888	1,500	948	166	176	149	302	4,211
1947	90	961	1,552	904	171	146	166	317	4,307
1948	85	850	1,250	744	165	180	209	338	3,821
1949	88	939	1,501	965	214	192	258	373	4,530
1950 3/	88	1,045	1,629	914	216	180	196	284	4,552

Sheep and lambs

Year	New York	11 Corn Belt States 4/: East	11 Corn Belt States 4/: West	Western States 5/	United States
1932	60	1,020	2,193	2,947	6,220
1933	50	925	1,990	2,786	5,751
1934	45	812	2,000	2,402	5,259
1935	50	1,040	2,330	2,249	5,669
1936	50	1,177	2,085	2,389	5,701
1937	50	1,203	1,590	2,754	5,597
1938	45	1,368	1,913	2,765	6,091
1939	45	1,194	2,007	2,639	5,885
1940	40	1,172	1,987	2,642	5,841
1941	54	1,186	2,492	2,744	6,479
1942	45	1,083	2,761	2,978	6,867
1943	49	1,049	3,260	2,596	6,954
1944	44	1,031	2,931	2,506	6,512
1945	36	950	3,404	2,521	6,911
1946	37	1,033	3,182	2,585	6,837
1947	35	821	2,872	1,965	5,693
1948	25	840	2,003	1,983	4,851
1949	25	697	1,771	1,510	4,003
1950 3/	20	699	1,685	1,329	3,733

1/ Minn., Iowa, Mo. 2/ N. Dak., S. Dak., Nebr., Kansas. 3/ Preliminary.
4/ North Central States except N. Dak. 5/ Eight mountain States, 3 Pacific States, Texas, Oklahoma, and N. Dakota.

Cattle on feed in the Corn Belt were lighter in weight this January than last. About 31 percent were under 600 pounds, and 27 percent over 900 pounds. Last year, 23 percent were under 600 pounds, and 34 percent topped 900 pounds. As might be expected from this distribution of weights, feeders reported their intentions to market cattle later this year than last. They intend to market only 33 percent of the January 1 number before April 1. Their plans last year were for marketing 42 percent by the latter date. Actual marketings last year were even earlier than the intentions, and the monthly pattern of cattle marketings in 1949 was notable for its early peaks. Peak marketings in 1950 are expected to come later than last year.

Cattle slaughter under Federal inspection in 3 weeks of January was the same as that a year earlier, but average slaughter weights were heavier and beef production was 4 percent larger than last year.

A small seasonal decline in cattle slaughter and beef production is expected in the next month or two, and both are expected to be slightly below year-ago levels. In the spring and summer, when the seasonal down-trend will be reversed, the quantity of beef produced may be equal to or a little larger than last year. The supply of beef, especially of the better quality produced from grain-fed cattle, is most likely to increase substantially over last year in late summer and early fall, the season when 1949 marketings were comparatively small.

Meat Consumption per Person in First Quarter May Fall Short of Last Year

With a little more pork in prospect but a little less beef, and the population larger, civilian consumption of meat per person in the January-March quarter may be a fraction of a pound less than last year. In the second quarter, consumption may exceed last year by around one pound per person. In the second half of 1950 consumption per person is expected to be larger than in the same period of 1949, but the quarterly distribution of the gain will depend on whether late-summer production of beef and pork is again unusually large. It is possible that the third quarter consumption will show little or no gain over last year, but that considerably more meat will be produced and consumed in the fourth quarter of 1950 than of 1949.

Price Increase for Hogs, Decline for Top Grade Cattle, Likely in Next 1-2 Months

A continued seasonal rise in prices of hogs is expected in the next month or two. The schedule of support prices indicates a moderate increase. Guides for barrows and gilts at 7 midwest markets rise from $15.50 per 100 pounds in late January to $16.40 by the end of February and will be $16.65 in all of March. Possibilities of a sharper than usual reduction in hog marketings in February indicate that prices may rise faster than the step-up in support guides.

No announcement regarding support to hog prices after March 31 has been made.

A moderate seasonal decline in prices of the highest grades of cattle is likely in weeks ahead, since the market supply of cattle of those grades will increase. The expected decline would close somewhat the very wide spread between prices of Choice and Common steers. In view of the prospective later dates of marketing of fed cattle this year, no extreme price decline for Good and Choice grades is likely.

Meat Consumption in 1949 Estimated at 145 Pounds Per Person

Preliminary estimates for the entire year of 1949 indicate that meat production was 1 1/2 percent larger than in 1948. Imports were smaller, as less beef was received from Argentina. Since the population was larger by more than 2 millions, average consumption of meat per person dropped slightly from 146 pounds in 1948 to 145 pounds in 1949.

Consumption in 1950 will probably be 2-3 pounds per person larger than the 1949 average.

7 Percent Fewer Sheep and Lambs on Feed January 1

On January 1 this year 7 percent fewer sheep and lambs were on feed than a year ago. The estimated number of 3,733,000 was 270,000 less than last year and the smallest number on feed since 1922. Reductions were reported for such Corn Belt States as Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Indiana; for California and a number of other Western States; and for New York. The largest increases occurred in Kansas, Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin.

In the Corn Belt as a whole, 3 percent fewer sheep and lambs were on feed this January 1 than last, but the reduction for all the area except Kansas amounted to 9 percent. In the wheat pasture areas of the Great Plains, the total number of lambs on feed is larger than last year. The number in Kansas wheat pastures is up to 394,000 from 202,000 last January. However, the 1950 number is far below the 900,000 head pastured there 3 years ago. The smallness of the supply of feeder lambs restricted feeding on wheat pastures as well as in other areas. Wheat pasture feeding in Nebraska and Colorado is on a low level, but that in Texas and Oklahoma is larger than last year.

In the West, the number of sheep and lambs on feed in Colorado is slightly above 1949, in California is down 16 percent and in every other Western State except Oregon is lower than last year.

The 7 percent reduction in the number of sheep and lambs on feed reflected mainly the smaller lamb crop in 1949. In the 13 Western States, source of most of the lambs for feeding, the crop was 5 percent smaller than a year before. Numbers of ewes and of all sheep and lambs declined steadily from 1942 to 1948, and may have been reduced somewhat more in 1949. As a consequence, the numbers of lambs raised and marketed, and supplies of lamb and mutton for consumption, are now very much smaller than they were a decade ago.

The fewer sheep and lambs on feed promise a smaller output of mutton and lamb for consumption in the first part of 1950 than a year earlier. The lower level is likely to continue through the rest of the year; even in case the lamb crop is nearly as large this year as last, more lambs are expected to be retained for breeding herds this year, and fewer marketed for slaughter. The rate of consumption of mutton and lamb per person in 1950 will probably be even lower than the record-low of 4.1 pounds in 1949.

Western Range Conditions Favorable, Condition of Livestock Good to January 1

Winter range feed conditions in the West were generally good during December. They were much better than in December last year. Cattle and sheep were reported in good to very good condition. Heavy snows in the Northwest in January caused some shrinkage and losses of livestock, but conditions in the West as a whole have been much less severe than in the winter of 1948-49, when recurring storms began early and caused severe damage to herds in some areas.

239 Million Pounds of Meat Into Cold Storage in December; January 1 Pork Stocks Close to Average

During December cold-storage holdings of meat were increased 239 million pounds. The net in-movement of 180 million pounds of pork was twice the quantity added in November and 20 millions more than that in December last year. Total holdings of 478 million pounds of pork on January 1 were 2 percent larger than last year and approximately average for the date, but perhaps less than might have been expected in view of the large quantity of pork produced this fall and winter.

Cold storage holdings of beef were increased 32 million pounds in December to reach 123 millions on January 1, the third-smallest holding for the date in 10 years.

MARKETING MARGINS FOR 1949

Marketing Charges For Each Meat Slightly Higher in 1949

Marketing charges for individual meats increased slightly in 1949 over 1948, according to estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.1/ Except for lamb, prices of meats averaged somewhat lower. Hence, the marketing charge was a larger percentage of retail prices last year than in 1948, and the farmers' share of the retail meat dollar was smaller. The farmers' share of the retail meat dollar has decreased from 73 cents in 1945, when it was affected by price controls and increased by subsidy payments, to an estimated 60 cents in 1949. The 1949 share, however, remained considerably above the 1937-41 average of 50 cents (tables 5 and 6).

1/ Basic data published in Been, R. O., Price Spreads Between Farmers and Consumers, Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 4, BAE, USDA, Washington, 1949; and in the monthly Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Table 5. - Average retail price of meats, farm value, and marketing charges, United States, by years 1936-49, by months 1949

Year or month	Retail price 1/	Net farm value 2/	Margin	Government processor payments 3/	Marketing charge 4/	Government payments to producers 5/	Adjusted farm value 6/
	All meat products, per pound						
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
By years:							
1936	26.3	12.4	13.9	---	13.9	---	12.4
1937	28.5	13.7	14.8	---	14.8	---	13.7
1938	25.1	12.0	13.1	---	13.1	---	12.0
1939	24.4	11.6	12.8	---	12.8	---	11.6
1940	23.3	11.4	11.9	---	11.9	---	11.4
1941	26.6	15.1	11.5	---	11.5	---	15.1
1942	30.9	19.7	11.2	---	11.2	---	19.7
1943	32.0	21.6	10.4	1.1	11.5	---	21.6
1944	30.4	20.1	10.3	1.9	12.2	---	20.1
1945	30.0	21.8	8.2	2.8	11.0	0.2	22.0
1946	38.5	26.3	12.2	1.8	14.0	0.2	26.5
1947	55.4	35.4	20.0	---	20.0	---	35.4
1948	62.0	39.0	23.0	---	23.0	---	39.0
1949 7/	56.0	33.8	22.2	---	22.2	---	33.8
By months, 1949:							
Jan.	57.2	34.7	22.5	---	22.5	---	34.7
Feb.	52.1	33.3	18.8	---	18.8	---	33.3
Mar.	54.1	35.5	18.6	---	18.6	---	35.5
Apr.	55.5	35.3	20.2	---	20.2	---	35.3
May	54.9	34.8	20.1	---	20.1	---	34.8
June	57.8	35.3	22.5	---	22.5	---	35.3
July	56.9	34.5	22.4	---	22.4	---	34.5
Aug.	57.7	33.7	24.0	---	24.0	---	33.7
Sept.	58.8	34.7	24.1	---	24.1	---	34.7
Oct.	57.4	32.7	24.7	---	24.7	---	32.7
Nov.	55.5	31.1	24.4	---	24.4	---	31.1
	Beef (Good grade), per pound						
By years:							
1936	27.8	14.3	13.5	---	13.5	---	14.3
1937	31.6	19.3	12.3	---	12.3	---	19.3
1938	27.9	14.7	13.2	---	13.2	---	14.7
1939	28.6	15.7	12.9	---	12.9	---	15.7
1940	28.7	16.9	11.8	---	11.8	---	16.9
1941	30.7	18.6	12.1	---	12.1	---	18.6
1942	34.1	23.0	11.1	---	11.1	---	23.0
1943	35.2	25.7	9.5	1.1	10.6	---	25.7
1944	33.4	26.3	7.1	2.0	9.1	---	26.3
1945	32.7	26.4	6.3	3.9	10.2	0.4	26.8
1946	41.8	33.2	8.6	2.6	11.2	0.3	33.5
1947	61.1	44.2	16.9	---	16.9	---	44.2
1948	73.7	53.0	20.7	---	20.7	---	53.0
1949 7/	66.8	45.4	21.4	---	21.4	---	45.4
By months, 1949:							
Jan.	68.5	43.9	24.6	---	24.6	---	43.9
Feb.	60.3	39.5	20.8	---	20.8	---	39.5
Mar.	63.3	42.8	20.5	---	20.5	---	42.8
Apr.	64.1	43.4	20.7	---	20.7	---	43.4
May	64.6	43.1	21.5	---	21.5	---	43.1
June	68.4	44.8	23.6	---	23.6	---	44.8
July	67.7	43.5	24.2	---	24.2	---	43.5
Aug.	67.8	44.5	23.3	---	23.3	---	44.5
Sept.	69.0	48.7	20.3	---	20.3	---	48.7
Oct.	69.6	50.6	19.0	---	19.0	---	50.6
Nov.	69.6	52.0	17.6	---	17.6	---	52.0

1/ Calculated from "market basket" of 335.4 pounds of meat and meat products consisting of 135.6 pounds of beef, 16.7 pounds of lamb, 157.5 pounds of pork, including lard, and 25.6 pounds of other meat products. Source material reported in "Price Spreads between farmers and consumers, 1933-49", USDA Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 4, November 1949, and current issues of The Marketing and Transportation Situation.

2/ Farm value of live animal weight and grade necessary to produce 1 pound of meat products at retail minus the computed value of byproducts obtained from the live animals, other than the edible byproducts included in the average retail price of all meat products. It requires 2.16 pounds of cattle to produce 1 pound of beef at retail and 2.16 pounds of live lambs are required to produce 1 pound of lamb at retail. It takes 1.41 pounds live hog to produce 1 pound of pork and lard at retail. (Footnotes continued on page 15.)

Table 5. - Average retail price of meats, farm value, and marketing charges, United States, by years 1936-49, by months 1949 - Continued

Year or month	Retail price 1/	Net farm value 2/	Margin	Government processor payments 3/	Marketing charge 4/	Government payments to producers 5/	Adjusted farm value 6/
	Pork, including lard, per pound						
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
By years:							
1936	23.5	13.0	10.5	---	10.5	---	13.0
1937	24.2	13.5	10.7	---	10.7	---	13.5
1938	21.1	10.8	10.3	---	10.3	---	10.8
1939	18.9	8.8	10.1	---	10.1	---	8.8
1940	16.5	7.5	9.0	---	9.0	---	7.5
1941	21.2	12.7	8.5	---	8.5	---	12.7
1942	26.2	18.2	8.0	---	8.0	---	18.2
1943	27.2	19.2	8.0	1.0	9.0	---	19.2
1944	25.6	18.2	7.4	1.8	9.2	---	18.2
1945	25.6	19.6	6.0	2.2	8.2	---	19.6
1946	33.4	24.0	9.4	1.4	10.8	---	24.0
1947	47.2	33.6	13.6	---	13.6	---	33.6
1948	47.5	32.4	15.1	---	15.1	---	32.4
1949 7/	41.1	25.7	15.4	---	15.4	---	25.7
By months, 1949:							
Jan.	42.9	27.9	15.0	---	15.0	---	27.9
Feb.	40.4	27.2	13.2	---	13.2	---	27.2
Mar.	41.4	27.8	13.6	---	13.6	---	27.8
Apr.	41.7	25.9	15.8	---	15.8	---	25.9
May	40.0	24.9	15.1	---	15.1	---	24.9
June	41.9	26.1	15.8	---	15.8	---	26.1
July	41.3	26.8	14.5	---	14.5	---	26.8
Aug.	43.2	27.0	16.2	---	16.2	---	27.0
Sept.	44.5	27.7	16.8	---	16.8	---	27.7
Oct.	41.6	24.5	17.1	---	17.1	---	24.5
Nov.	37.9	21.7	16.2	---	16.2	---	21.7
	Lamb, per pound						
By years:							
1936	27.1	13.6	13.5	---	13.5	---	13.6
1937	28.4	14.5	13.9	---	13.9	---	14.5
1938	26.4	12.3	14.1	---	14.1	---	12.3
1939	26.4	13.2	13.2	---	13.2	---	13.2
1940	26.1	13.4	12.7	---	12.7	---	13.4
1941	27.8	15.4	12.4	---	12.4	---	15.4
1942	32.4	19.2	13.2	---	13.2	---	19.2
1943	35.9	21.9	14.0	0.9	14.9	---	21.9
1944	35.1	21.2	13.9	1.6	15.5	---	21.2
1945	35.2	22.0	13.2	0.9	14.1	1.4	23.4
1946	42.1	26.8	15.3	---	15.3	2.2	29.0
1947	56.7	37.3	19.4	---	19.4	---	37.3
1948	64.3	42.1	22.2	---	22.2	---	42.1
1949 7/	67.6	41.4	26.2	---	26.2	---	41.4
By months, 1949:							
Jan.	61.2	38.8	22.4	---	22.4	---	38.8
Feb.	59.7	37.4	22.3	---	22.3	---	37.4
Mar.	60.9	41.9	19.0	---	19.0	---	41.9
Apr.	75.4	47.5	27.9	---	27.9	---	47.5
May	75.6	47.9	27.7	---	27.7	---	47.9
June	77.4	46.6	30.8	---	30.8	---	46.6
July	72.4	42.6	29.8	---	29.8	---	42.6
Aug.	69.4	39.2	30.2	---	30.2	---	39.2
Sept.	66.9	39.8	27.1	---	27.1	---	39.8
Oct.	63.8	39.0	24.8	---	24.8	---	39.0
Nov.	62.5	38.9	23.6	---	23.6	---	38.9

3/ Government payments were made to slaughterers of hogs, cattle, calves, sheep and lambs beginning June 1943 and continuing for most classes through June 1946, and again in September and the first half of October 1946.
4/ "Adjusted margin". Equals margin plus Government payments to slaughterers.
5/ Government payments to hog producers in 1933-36 were made under the AAA hog and corn reduction program. In 1945 and 1946 payments were made to sheep and lamb producers for sheep and lambs sold for immediate slaughter and payments previously made to processors of sheep and lambs were withdrawn. Also in 1945 and the first half of 1946 payments were made to farmers for cattle sold for immediate slaughter at weights above 800 pounds and prices above designated amounts.
6/ Net farm value plus Government payments to livestock producers.
7/ Preliminary estimate.

Table 6.- Net farm value as percentage of retail price of meat products, by years 1936-49, by months 1949 to date
(Data for cover page chart)

Year and month	All meat products	Beef (good grade)	Pork (incl. lard)	Lamb
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
By years:				
1936	47.1	51.4	55.3	50.2
1937	48.1	61.1	55.8	51.1
1938	47.8	52.7	51.2	46.6
1939	47.5	54.9	46.6	50.0
1940	48.9	58.9	45.5	51.3
1941	56.8	60.6	59.9	55.4
1942	63.8	67.4	69.5	59.3
1943 1/	67.5	73.0	70.6	61.0
1944 1/	66.1	78.7	71.1	60.4
1945 1/ 2/	72.7	80.7	76.6	62.5
1946 1/ 2/	68.3	79.4	71.9	63.7
1947	63.9	72.3	71.2	65.8
1948	62.9	71.9	68.2	65.5
1949 3/	60.4	68.0	62.5	61.6
By months, 1949:				
January	60.7	64.1	65.0	63.4
February	63.9	65.5	67.3	62.6
March	65.6	67.6	67.1	68.8
April	63.6	67.7	62.1	63.0
May	63.4	66.7	62.2	63.4
June	61.1	65.5	62.3	60.2
July	60.6	64.3	64.9	58.8
August	58.4	65.6	62.5	56.5
September	59.0	70.6	62.2	59.5
October	57.0	72.7	58.9	61.1
November	56.0	74.7	57.3	62.2

1/ In 1943-45 Government payments to slaughterers reduced the retail price of meat and therefore increased the percentage of the retail price received by producers of livestock. 2/ In 1945 and 1946 the total return to farmers ("adjusted farm value") was a somewhat larger part of the retail price of beef, lamb, and all meat than the figures shown here, because of Government payments made to feeders of cattle and sheep. 3/ Preliminary estimates.

The marketing charge per pound of meat is the difference between the average price of 1 pound of meat at retail and the farm value of an equivalent quantity and grade of live animal, as adjusted for the value of by-products and, in certain years, for Government payments to processors and for processing taxes.

Price data for all meats combined include estimates for miscellaneous processed and canned meat products and sausage and apply more nearly to all grades and qualities of the meats and live animals sold in any year than do data for individual meats. Price data for beef cuts and beef cattle alone apply mainly to Good grade carcass cuts. For these reasons data for all meats do not reflect exactly the trends for individual meats.

The marketing charge, which is sometimes called "adjusted margin", covers the entire marketing process including the transportation, marketing and slaughter of livestock and the processing, transportation, wholesaling and retailing of meat. Marketing charges tend to change more slowly than prices of meats and livestock, and to continue a trend in one direction longer than do meat and livestock prices. Although it is not possible by statistical analysis of available data to account completely for the behavior of marketing margins, it is known that many costs in marketing such as labor, rents, materials and supplies, transportation charges, taxes and interest are relatively fixed over short periods of time.

Moreover, charges do not necessarily pay for identical services in all years. There is evidence, for instance, that marketing charges nowadays may pay for more inspection of meat as to sanitation and grade, and for better preparation and packaging, including packaging for self-service, than they used to. On the other hand, certain services such as credit and home delivery may be less common.

Live Hog-Wholesale Pork Price Spread Variable By Weeks in 1949

Prices of meat at retail and of live animals tend to change in like direction month to month (see table 5). Wholesale prices of meats usually follow trends similar to those of retail and live animal prices. Within shorter periods of time, however, there can be considerable difference between trends in prices at various marketing levels. When prices of live animals and of meat do not move together, the spread between them is highly variable. Comparisons between the wholesale value of 72.95 pounds of hog products, fresh basis, and the market price of hogs per 100 pounds, both at Chicago, show that the spread between the two prices last year ranged from 30 cents the week of July 9 to $3.52 the week of August 20. (table 7, figure 1). This spread as calculated only from prices of fresh pork products is lower than it would be if prices of some cured products were used.

It is not intended here to explain the causes for week-to-week differences in price changes for pork products and for live hogs. Frequently the position of packers each week in needing livestock in order to continue a scale of operations previously begun is important in affecting the prices they bid. Many other factors, including doubtlessly the tenor of market trends from day to day, enter into the changes in price spreads. Another reason, however, is the necessity for packer buyers to bid for hogs not according to current wholesale and retail prices of pork products but according to expectations of those prices after the hogs are converted into the dressed products. Sometimes the expectations do not prove accurate, and a change in prices of live hogs is not fully reflected in similar changes either immediately or later in prices of pork products. In April, mid-August, and late September 1949, price declines for live hogs were not matched in pork product prices soon thereafter. On the other hand, in June and October hog prices showed more strength than could be justified by later changes in wholesale prices.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47504-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Marketing Charges to be Important Factor in Meat Animal Prices in Years Ahead

Total meat production is on a slow uptrend. Its gradual rise will probably be accompanied by a slow downtrend in prices of meats and of meat animals. The amount of change in prices of live animals received by farmers when retail prices decline will depend considerably on the trend in marketing, processing and distribution charges. Marketing charges, in turn, will be related to unit costs of marketing expenses, to the efficiency and competitiveness in marketing agencies, and to the quantity of services rendered. If the total marketing charge should continue to increase, each decline in retail meat prices would be followed by a sizable reduction in prices received by farmers. If on the other hand the marketing charge should stabilize or decrease somewhat, farmers' prices of meat animals would change only moderately more than retail prices of meats and the percentage of the retail meat dollar returned to the farmers would remain above its prewar average. One hopeful factor in this latter possibility is that the expected increase in meat production will itself lead to more efficiency and a reduced marketing cost per pound produced.

Table 7.- Average wholesale value of hog products derived from 100 pounds of live hogs compared with prices of live hogs, Chicago, by weeks, 1949

Date		Hog product value 1/	Price of live hogs	Spread	Date		Hog product value 1/	Price of live hogs	Spread
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1949									
Jan.	1	23.11	22.52	+ 0.59	July	2	21.99	21.43	+ 0.56
	8	22.78	21.78	+ 1.00		9	21.89	21.59	+ 0.30
	15	22.76	21.65	+ 1.11		16	22.88	22.35	+ 0.53
	22	22.85	21.26	+ 1.59		23	23.75	22.72	+ 1.03
	29	22.49	21.60	+ 0.89		30	23.36	22.22	+ 1.14
Feb.	5	21.98	21.38	+ 0.60	Aug.	6	23.76	22.75	+ 1.01
	12	21.33	20.30	+ 1.03		13	24.32	22.62	+ 1.70
	19	22.25	21.40	+ 0.85		20	23.87	20.35	+ 3.52
	26	23.45	21.47	+ 1.98		27	23.01	20.68	+ 2.33
Mar.	5	23.08	21.75	+ 1.33	Sept.	3	22.99	20.98	+ 2.01
	12	22.92	21.71	+ 1.21		10	23.51	21.50	+ 2.01
	19	22.94	21.59	+ 1.35		17	23.87	21.28	+ 2.59
	26	22.69	21.56	+ 1.13		24	22.12	19.45	+ 2.67
Apr.	2	22.62	21.02	+ 1.60	Oct.	1	21.31	19.00	+ 2.31
	9	22.01	20.41	+ 1.60		8	20.39	18.04	+ 2.35
	16	21.61	19.60	+ 2.01		15	19.43	17.86	+ 1.57
	23	21.17	18.48	+ 2.69		22	19.57	17.96	+ 1.61
	30	20.42	18.02	+ 2.40		29	19.12	17.85	+ 1.27
May	7	20.20	18.46	+ 1.74	Nov.	5	17.92	17.04	+ 0.88
	14	20.00	18.69	+ 1.31		12	18.21	16.53	+ 1.68
	21	20.71	19.32	+ 1.39		19	17.56	16.04	+ 1.52
	28	22.31	20.44	+ 1.87		26	17.43	16.04	+ 1.39
June	4	23.17	22.06	+ 1.11	Dec.	3	17.38	16.00	+ 1.38
	11	22.66	21.68	+ 0.98		10	17.22	15.88	+ 1.34
	18	22.08	21.08	+ 1.00		17	17.09	15.85	+ 1.24
	25	22.15	21.54	+ 0.61		24	17.15	16.44	+ 0.71
						31	17.16	16.30	+ 0.86

1/ 72.95 pounds of major and minor hog products, fresh basis. This price series is lower and the spread smaller than would be shown by a similar series for fresh and cured pork products.

Production and Marketing Administration.

Table 8.- Average retail price, farm value and marketing charges for all meats combined, 1913-49 1/

Year	Retail price	Net farm value	Margin	Government processor payments	Processing taxes on hogs	Marketing charge	Government payments to producers	Adjusted farm value
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1913	18.7	11.2	7.5			7.5		11.2
1914	19.2	11.5	7.7			7.7		11.5
1915	18.6	10.4	8.2			8.2		10.4
1916	20.4	12.2	8.2			8.2		12.2
1917	26.4	17.7	8.7			8.7		17.7
1918	32.6	20.6	12.0			12.0		20.6
1919	34.7	20.9	13.8			13.8		20.9
1920	33.8	17.7	16.1			16.1		17.7
1921	27.7	11.2	16.5			16.5		11.2
1922	26.7	11.9	14.8			14.8		11.9
1923	26.7	11.1	15.6			15.6		11.1
1924	27.0	11.5	15.5			15.5		11.5
1925	30.0	14.7	15.3			15.3		14.7
1926	30.8	15.4	15.4			15.4		15.4
1927	30.4	14.6	15.8			15.8		14.6
1928	32.0	15.8	16.2			16.2		15.8
1929	33.2	16.6	16.6			16.6		16.6
1930	31.0	14.0	17.0			17.0		14.0
1931	25.7	9.8	15.9			15.9		9.8
1932	20.0	6.8	13.2			13.2		6.8
1933	17.7	6.3	11.4		.1	11.3	.1	6.4
1934	20.6	7.2	13.4		1.5	11.9	1.5	8.7
1935	27.7	12.2	15.5		1.6	13.9	1.6	13.8
1936	26.3	12.4	13.9			13.9		12.4
1937	28.5	13.7	14.8			14.8		13.7
1938	25.1	12.0	13.1			13.1		12.0
1939	24.4	11.6	12.8			12.8		11.6
1940	23.3	11.4	11.9			11.9		11.4
1941	26.6	15.1	11.5			11.5		15.1
1942	30.9	19.7	11.2			11.2		19.7
1943	32.0	21.6	10.4	1.1		11.5		21.6
1944	30.4	20.1	10.3	1.9		12.2		20.1
1945	30.0	21.8	8.2	2.8		11.0	0.2	22.0
1946	38.5	26.3	12.2	1.8	---	14.0	0.2	26.5
1947	55.4	35.4	20.0			20.0		35.4
1948	62.0	39.0	23.0			23.0		39.0
1949	56.0	33.8	22.2			22.2		33.8

1/ For 1936-49 repeats data in first section of table 5. See heading and footnotes of table 5 for explanation of data in each column.

Livestock prices per 100 pounds (except where noted), marketings and slaughter statistics, by species, December 1949, with comparisons

Prices

Item	Annual 1938-47 av.	January-December 1948	January-December 1949	1948 November	1948 December	1949 November	1949 December	1950 January
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Cattle and calves								
Beef steers sold out of first hand:								
Chicago, Choice and Prime	16.19	35.24	28.65	36.28	32.56	36.25	37.77	
Good	14.73	30.96	26.07	30.68	27.82	29.35	29.91	
Medium	12.88	26.31	23.17	25.80	24.09	24.26	24.50	
Common	10.73	22.16	19.77	22.01	21.28	19.02	19.23	
All grades	14.66	30.88	25.80	30.71	26.78	28.21	26.47	
All grades, Omaha	---	---	24.23	28.09	25.09	25.36	24.17	
All grades, Sioux City	---	---	24.41	28.73	25.40	26.02	25.11	
Cows, Chicago, Good grade	11.41	23.18	18.79	21.46	20.28	17.56	17.30	
Cows, Chicago, Cutter and Common 1/	8.29	18.01	15.41	16.98	17.01	13.87	14.16	
Vealers: Good and Choice, Chicago	14.39	29.02	27.64	30.86	30.78	26.95	27.72	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	11.97	25.54	21.34	24.52	23.26	21.45	21.44	
Average price received by farmers:								
Beef cattle	10.86	22.20	19.90	20.80	20.40	19.20	19.00	19.40
Veal calves	12.22	24.40	23.30	23.80	24.10	22.00	22.40	23.30
Hogs								
Average market price, Chicago:								
Barrows and gilts	13.07	23.27	18.62	22.91	21.34	16.04	15.38	
Sows	12.20	22.58	16.67	20.61	18.00	14.74	12.72	
Average price received by farmers:								
Hogs	12.38	23.10	18.50	21.80	20.90	15.60	14.80	15.10
Corn, cents per bushel	95.3	188.	117.	121.	123.	102.	113.	115.
Hog-corn price ratio (farm basis) 2/								
North Central Region	14.4	13.2	16.3	18.5	17.3	15.8	13.2	13.3
United States	13.3	13.0	15.8	18.0	17.0	15.3	13.1	13.1
Sheep and Lambs								
Lambs, Good and Choice slaugh., Chicago 3/	14.02	25.96	25.45	25.40	25.07	23.13	21.91	
Feeding lambs, Good and Choice, Omaha	12.37	4/22.36	5/23.06	23.01	23.31	23.25	22.88	
Ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	6.35	11.59	10.83	9.71	10.44	11.09	11.20	
Average price received by farmers:								
Sheep	5.72	9.69	9.50	8.93	8.81	8.92	9.28	9.64
Lambs	11.88	22.80	22.70	21.90	21.80	21.40	21.00	21.60
Meat								
Wholesale, Chicago:								
Steer beef, carcass (Good 500-600 lb.)	21.28	50.03	42.66	49.14	44.41	47.26	45.02	
Composite hog products (incl. lard) 6/	21.39	29.94	24.61	28.13	26.79	21.32	20.36	
Lamb carcasses (Good 30-40 lb.)	23.66	49.00	49.64	47.72	45.62	46.36	44.40	
B.L.S. index retail meat prices 7/	124.3	243.9	229.3	243.1	235.4	226.4	220.0	
BLS index wholesale meat prices 8/	---	254.9	221.8	240.0	230.8	212.9	206.5	
Index income of industrial workers 1935-39 = 100 9/	227.0	353.6	---	362.7	360.5	---	---	

Livestock Marketing and Slaughter Statistics

Item	Unit	Annual 1938-47 av.	January-December 1948	January-December 1949	1948 November	1948 December	1949 November	1949 December	1950 January
Meat-animal marketings:									
Index numbers (1935-39 = 100)	---	134	139	139	174	159	160	154	
Stocker and Feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States:									
Cattle and calves	Thous.	---	2,559	3,258	461	195	432	198	
Sheep and lambs	Thous.	---	2,369	2,518	367	133	212	71	
Slaughter under Federal Inspection:									
Number: 10/									
Cattle	Thous.	11,943	12,994	13,222	1,151	1,197	1,116	1,064	
Calves	Thous.	6,111	6,907	6,449	614	572	585	511	
Sheep and lambs	Thous.	19,541	15,343	12,136	1,444	1,329	1,060	1,058	
Hogs	Thous.	49,529	47,615	53,032	5,425	6,089	6,003	6,477	
Percent sows are of hogs	Percent	---	12	15	11	8	10	11	
Average live-weight:									
Cattle	Pound	942	945	976	946	963	968	984	
Calves	Pound	202	209	209	234	217	237	218	
Sheep and lambs	Pound	90	94	94	94	95	95	98	
Hogs	Pound	271	253	248	241	250	236	243	
Meat Production:									
Beef	Mil. lb.	5,972	6,433	6,998	558	604	566	556	
Veal	Mil. lb.	687	791	746	77	67	75	60	
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	807	665	536	62	58	48	49	
Pork (excluding lard)	Mil. lb.	6,983	6,832	7,352	752	851	801	881	
Storage stocks first of month:									
Beef	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	88	111	70	91	123
Veal	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	10	16	9	12	16
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	16	23	8	11	14
Pork	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	203	311	210	297	478
Total meat and meat products	Mil. lb.	---	---	---	382	535	370	493	732

1/ Common until July 1939 when changed to Cutter and Common. 2/ Number of bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs. 3/ Wooled lambs except for months of June through September when quoted as spring lambs. 4/ Average of prices for January, February, March, April, May, August, September, October, November and December. 5/ Average of prices for August, September, October, November and December. 6/ Calculated from values of 71.32 pounds of fresh and cured hog products including lard. 7/ 1935-39=100. 8/ 1926=100. 9/ Revised data 1939 to date. 10/ 1948-49 slaughter excludes Hawaii and Virgin Islands.

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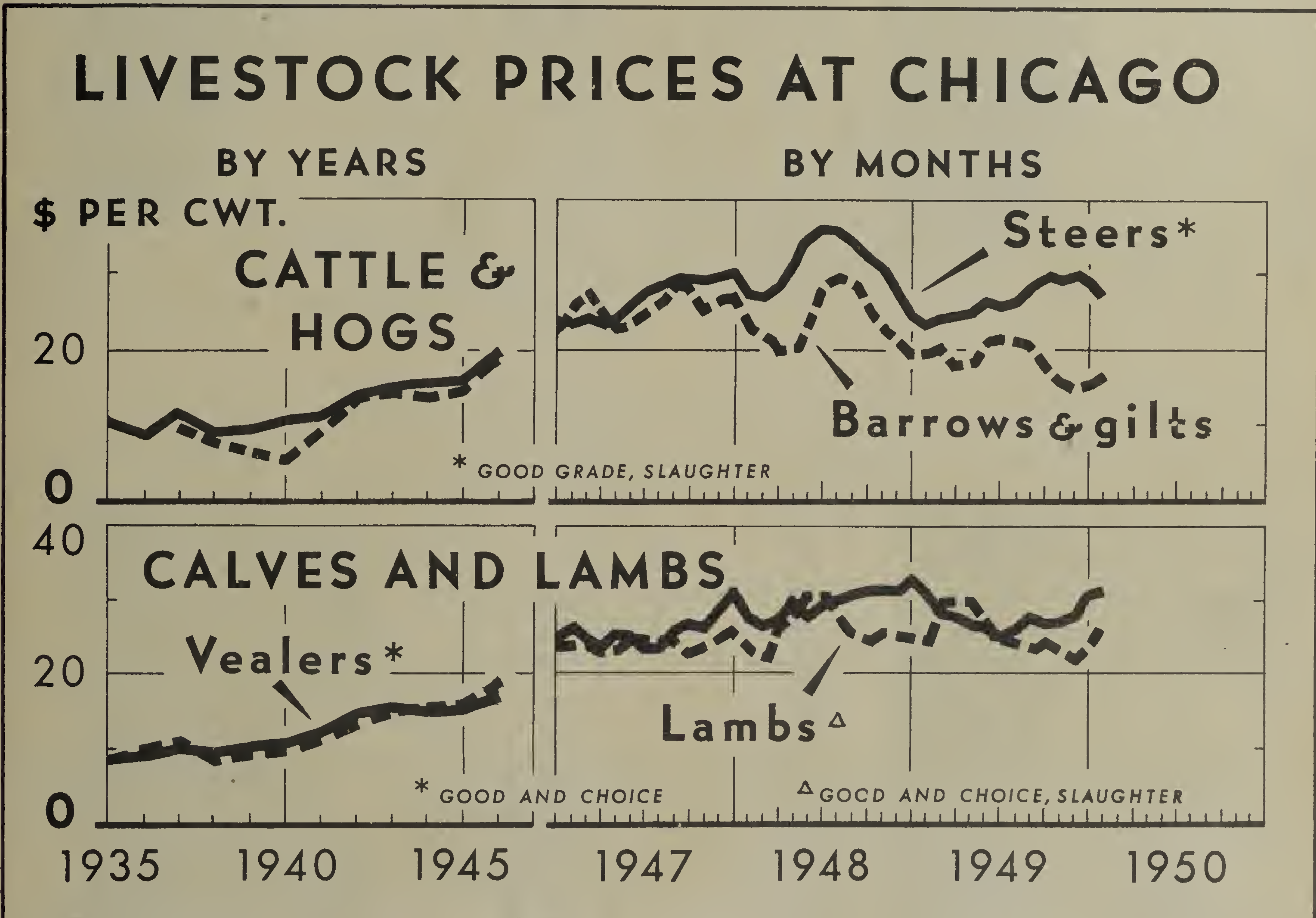
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-36 BAE FEBRUARY 1950

In this issue: Statistical Appendix

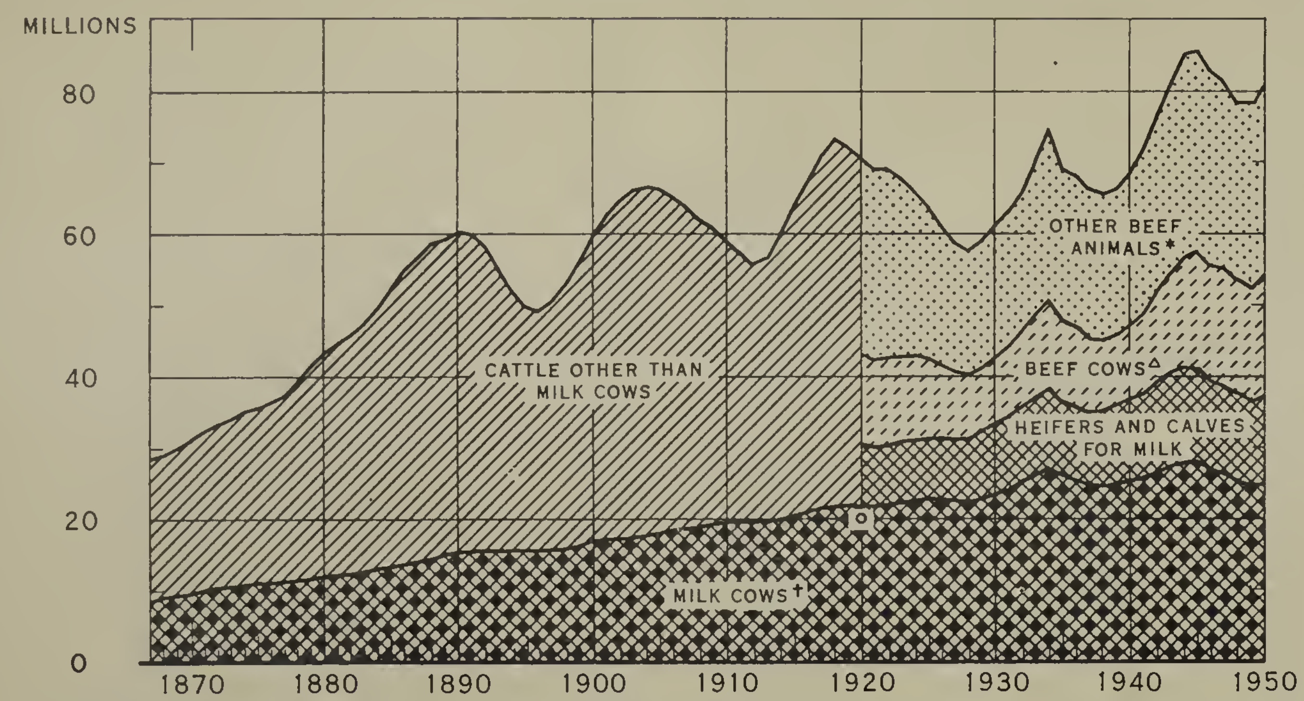


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47117-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Recent prices of most meat animals except hogs compare favorably with postwar levels except the highest months of 1948. Prices of hogs are now recovering from a seasonal slump in which prices hit the lowest point since June 1946, the last month of continuous price control.

A seasonal decline in hog prices is expected this spring, and their general trend may drift downward somewhat more before stabilizing. Prices of Good grade steers will probably be reduced seasonally this spring. The general level of cattle prices may continue fairly stable this year, but a decline is likely in years ahead because an increase in annual slaughter will result from the current expansion in national cattle numbers.

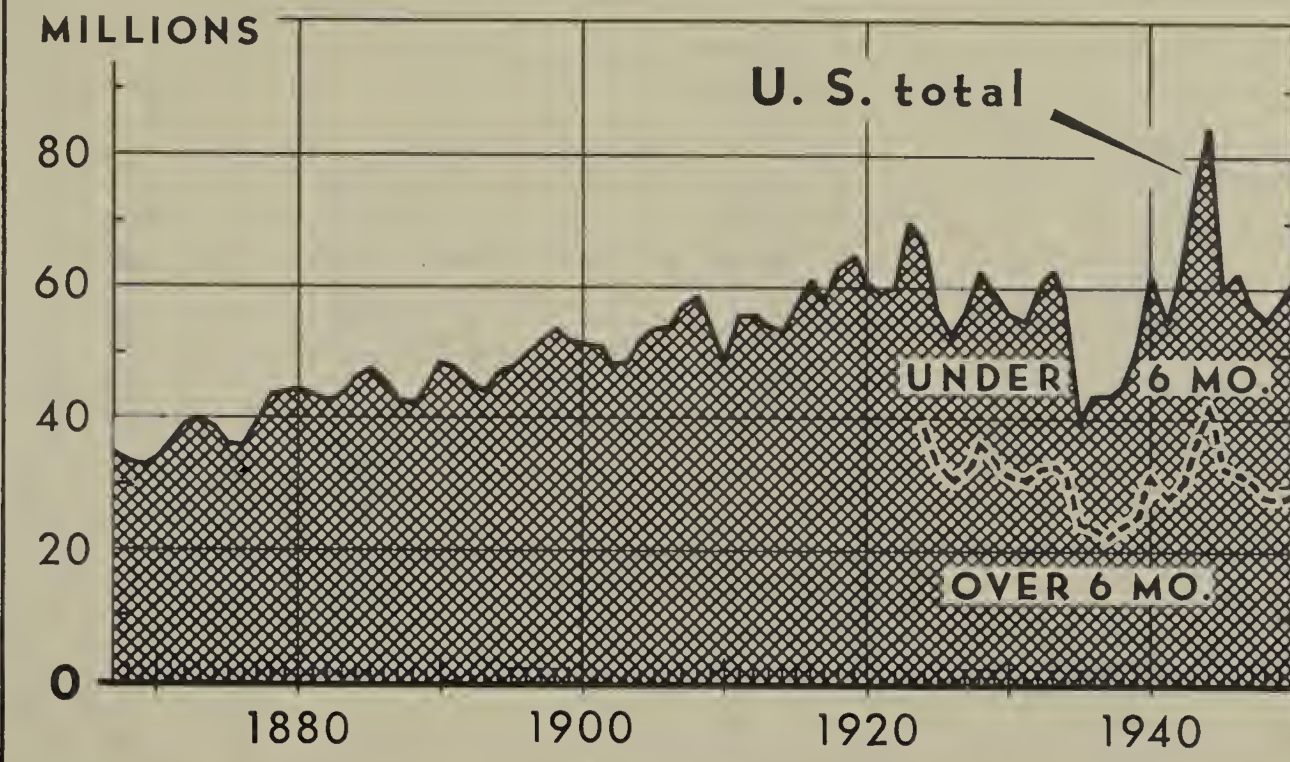
CATTLE ON FARMS, BY CLASSES



** HEIFERS AND CALVES OTHER THAN FOR MILK, AND ALL STEERS AND BULLS*
△ COWS 2 YEARS AND OLDER OTHER THAN FOR MILK. † COWS AND HEIFERS 2 YEARS AND OLDER KEPT FOR MILK
○ DATA FOR ALL CLASSES NOT AVAILABLE BEFORE 1920. 1950 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47147A-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

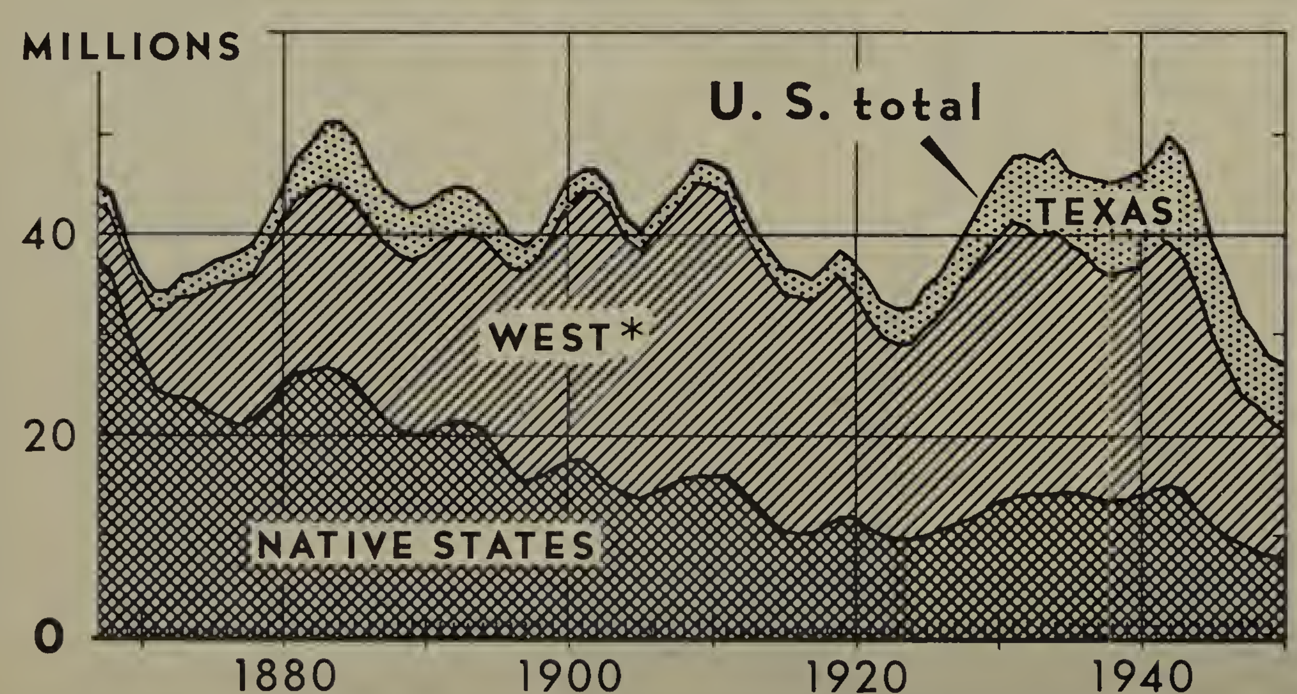
HOGS ON FARMS JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1950 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45116-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

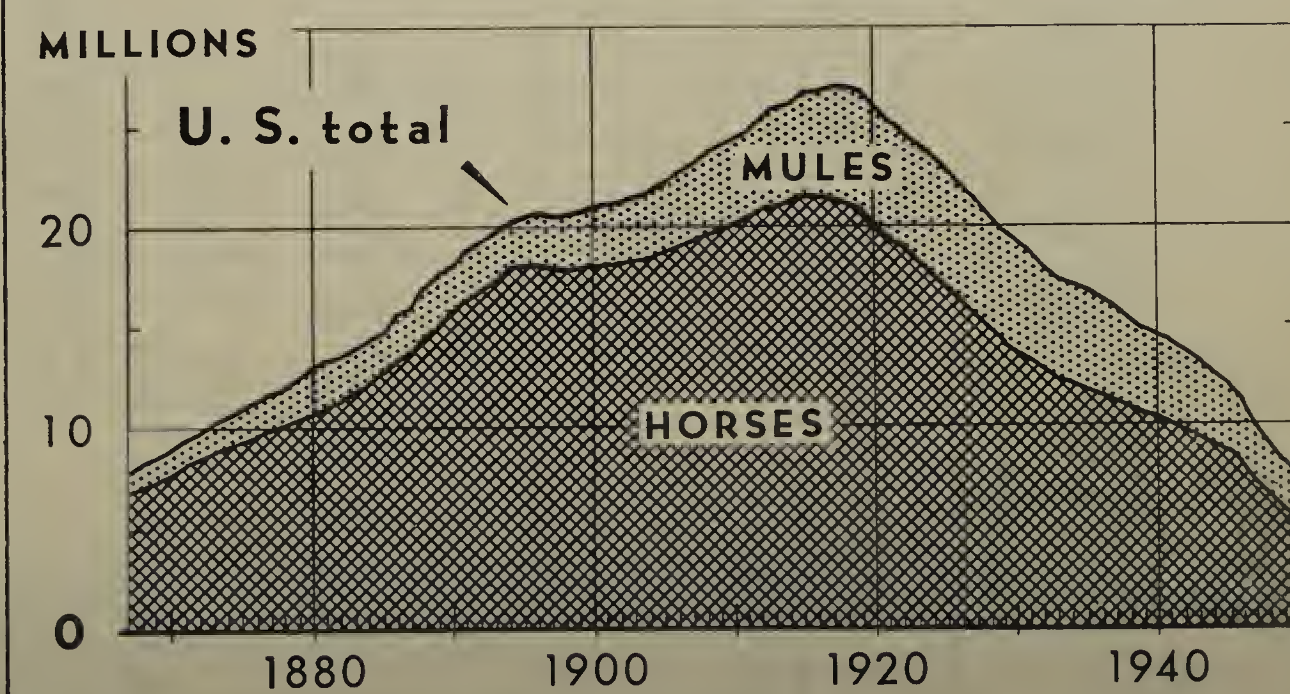
STOCK SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FARMS JAN. 1



**11 WESTERN STATES AND OKLAHOMA* *DATA FOR 1950 ARE PRELIMINARY*

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47391-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

HORSES AND MULES ON FARMS JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1950 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45117-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, February 24, 1950

SUMMARY

Prices of meat animals were generally steady through February in contrast with the sharp breaks that occurred in that month of both 1949 and 1948. Prices, other than those of hogs, were about equal to or above prices of a year earlier and compared favorably with the general postwar level of prices except for the highest months of 1948. Prices of hogs have drifted downward the past year and one-half, and although a seasonal advance has been underway since early January, they are continuing lower than a year ago.

Prices of hogs in February were above support levels. As late as the end of that month no pork had been bought for price support.

A seasonal decline in prices of hogs is to be expected this spring as hogs from the 1949 fall pig crop come to market. The reduction may be moderately large, since the number of hogs slaughtered, which recently has been about equal to last year, will be substantially larger than last year from April to about mid-June. Increased slaughter in those months will reflect the sizeably larger numbers of sows farrowing last August and September than a year previously.

Prices of cattle of the better grades are likely to decline seasonally until early summer. Last year they advanced steadily during this season. Marketings of Good and better cattle have been small to date this year, but will probably increase seasonally to a peak that will occur later this year than last.

Fed lambs have been marketed slightly earlier this year than last and at heavy weights. Prices in December were the lowest since price control ended, but recovered somewhat in January and February. A further seasonal advance is expected.

In the 5 months beginning last October, total production of meat has been nearly the same as a year earlier. Production this spring will probably exceed the comparable 1949 level. Consumption of meat per person will total less in the first quarter this year than last, but in the second quarter and in 1950 as a whole is expected to be larger than last year.

Since the total supply of meat has been about the same this winter as last but the overall average prices of meat animals and meat have been lower, it is evident that demand for meat has weakened somewhat. Consumers' incomes have slipped off since last winter, and in addition the retail value of meat consumed is a little lower relative to incomes. In view of a slightly weaker demand for meat, the outlook is for lower prices of hogs throughout 1950 than last year and for year-average prices of cattle slightly below 1949.

In a longer outlook, prices of cattle may decline slowly much as hog prices have done. Cattle numbers of 80.3 millions in January this year were up 2.2 million head from their 1948 low. Further building up of herds is expected. Rising numbers will eventually result in an expanding annual cattle and calf slaughter -- probably beginning in 1951.

Although the number of sheep and lambs on farms was down again this January and was the smallest on record, it was reduced less in 1949 than in any year since an 8-year decline began in 1942. Sheep numbers probably will be maintained or increased in 1950. The number of sheep and lambs slaughtered this year will probably be even smaller than the small number in 1949, and not for several years will a material increase in slaughter occur.

A large part of the increase in pig crops the past year has been counterbalanced by lighter slaughter weights of hogs. Inasmuch as pig crops are likely to be increased less in 1950 than they were in 1949, with only a 6 percent gain planned by farmers for the spring crop compared with a 15 percent increase in the 1949 spring crop, it is possible that 1950 pork production will be near its cyclical peak. Consequently, prices of hogs may be more nearly stabilized after 1950. Although they will depend partly on changes in demand, hog prices in the next few years may decline less than in the period through 1950 and possibly less than cattle prices. Since sheep and lambs will be last to increase in number, their prices are likely to be the last to begin a material decline.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

February Prices of Most Meat Animals Up to or Above Last February; But Hogs Lower

Prices of meat animals held comparatively steady in February this year in contrast with the sharp February breaks in both 1948 and 1949. Prices for most classes other than hogs were equal to or above those of a year earlier, and compared favorably with their general level in postwar years except for the very high prices in the summer of 1948 (see table 1 and cover chart).

Prices this February were distinctly higher than last February for the better grades of slaughter steers and for feeder and stocker cattle; they were roughly the same as last year for other classes of cattle, for calves, and for lambs; but hog prices were lower.

Seasonal Price Decline Likely For Top Cattle

Slaughter of the better grades of cattle increased in February but did not reach the comparable 1949 level and did not result in materially lower prices. Prices of Good grade slaughter steers dropped only about $1.50 per 100 lb. from early January to mid-February and remained unusually high relative to those of Medium and Common grades.

Table 1.- Price per 100 pounds at Chicago of Good grade steers, Good and Choice vealers, barrows and gilts, and Good and Choice slaughter lambs, by years 1935-46, by months 1947 to date
(Data for cover chart)

Years	Good grade steers at Chicago	Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	Barrows and gilts, Chicago	Slaughter Lambs, Good and Choice, Chicago 1/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1935	10.79	8.88	2/	8.85
1936	8.82	9.30	2/	9.86
1937	11.79	10.07	10.02	10.59
1938	9.14	9.52	8.27	8.39
1939	9.81	10.07	6.81	9.26
1940	10.48	10.61	5.80	9.65
1941	11.36	12.18	9.47	11.19
1942	13.90	14.48	13.69	13.81
1943	15.34	15.18	14.49	14.95
1944	15.73	14.86	13.77	15.22
1945	16.00	15.12	14.75	15.48
1946	19.32	16.87	18.42	18.65
1947 -- Jan.	23.93	24.58	22.85	23.23
Feb.	23.79	26.00	26.12	23.24
Mar.	24.05	24.76	27.36	23.46
Apr.	23.45	23.14	23.80	22.28
May	24.22	24.96	22.67	22.56
June	25.72	24.68	23.32	24.40
July	27.64	23.07	24.74	24.46
Aug.	28.27	23.08	26.31	23.88
Sept.	29.43	25.08	28.17	24.51
Oct.	29.55	26.20	28.09	22.86
Nov.	29.12	26.01	25.10	23.42
Dec.	29.62	28.18	26.62	24.81
1948 -- Jan.	30.36	30.41	27.06	25.43
Feb.	27.10	27.15	22.48	22.95
Mar.	26.92	26.06	21.64	22.13
Apr.	28.17	26.99	19.98	25.13
May	30.91	29.04	20.32	27.68
June	34.85	27.27	23.62	30.44
July	36.44	28.92	27.97	30.07
Aug.	36.02	29.60	29.56	27.51
Sept.	34.49	30.32	28.84	25.18
Oct.	32.24	30.82	25.87	24.53
Nov.	30.68	30.86	22.91	25.40
Dec.	27.82	30.78	21.34	25.07
1949 -- Jan.	24.72	32.60	19.74	24.66
Feb.	22.99	31.06	19.78	24.38
Mar.	24.19	27.98	20.49	28.78
Apr.	24.37	27.58	18.60	29.39
May	24.92	26.35	18.86	29.52
June	26.37	26.13	20.76	27.49
July	25.96	24.98	21.51	24.98
Aug.	26.50	25.96	21.41	23.79
Sept.	28.22	27.40	20.76	23.57
Oct.	29.63	27.02	18.10	23.75
Nov.	29.35	26.95	16.04	23.13
Dec.	29.91	27.72	15.38	21.91
1950 -- Jan.	28.14	30.66	15.54	23.20
Feb. 3/	27.13	31.14	16.86	25.69

1/ Shorn, spring, or wooled as reported for various months of the year. 2/ Not available. 3/ Average of 3 weeks.

A seasonal decline in prices of finished cattle usually begins in the fall but it was delayed this year by the relatively small marketings of cattle of the top grades. As more cattle with high finish reach slaughter channels in the next few months, their prices are likely to decline. No extreme reduction is expected, however, because marketings of fed cattle are likely to increase rather gradually and reach a peak later this year than last. Of their cattle on feed January 1, feeders planned to market only 33 percent by April 1. On the same date in 1949 they planned to market 42 percent by April, and actually marketed more than that proportion.

Hog Prices Above Support
Through February

Prices of hogs increased beginning the middle of January. They remained above the weekly guides through the week ended February 25, when prices of barrows and gilts at 7 central markets averaged $16.82 per 100 lb., $0.42 above the weekly guide of $16.40. Farmers received an average price of $16.60 in mid-February, compared with the support price of $15.50. As late as the end of February no pork products had been bought for support purposes. Offers were invited for purchase of a small quantity of smoked picnics for the school lunch program, but none was bought in February.

Slaughter supplies of hogs, which in February were seasonally smaller than in January and little different from last year, are likely to increase fairly rapidly beginning sometime in March. Total March slaughter is likely to exceed moderately that of the same month last year, and a large gain over 1949 is expected in April and May. The 1949 fall pig crop, most of the hogs from which will be marketed in March-September 1950, was 10 percent larger than the 1948 fall crop. Because most of the increase in number of sows farrowing occurred in August and September, hog slaughter this spring is likely to surpass last spring by the widest margin in April to mid-June.

Price support levels for hogs in March, the last month for which support has been announced, are higher than in February. The guide at 7 markets is $16.65 per 100 lb. in each week of the month, and the support price, farm basis, is $16.20. Prices are likely to be fairly strong through at least the first part of March. A seasonal decline may begin before the end of the month and continue in April and May.

A factor tending to prevent any great weakness in prices of hogs is the lower average weights at which hogs are being marketed this year. In the 4 weeks ended February 25 the average weights of barrows and gilts at 7 markets was 13 pounds less than the 251 pounds of last year. Such a reduction in weights, if it continues, will offset a substantial part of the increase in numbers slaughtered. However, the reduction in weights will hold down the output of fatty cuts of pork more than that of lean cuts, particularly if the percent yield of lard remains rather high.

Fed Lambs Marketed Early This Winter; Price Advances From December Low

Feeder lambs moved to feeding areas earlier than usual last fall and have continued on an earlier schedule. Having been received off the range in good condition, they were fed to heavy weights. In January the average live weight of sheep and lambs slaughtered under Federal inspection was probably over 100 lb., the second January weight on record to pass the 100-lb. mark. The number slaughtered in January, however, was smaller than last year, extending the decline of the past few years. It was the smallest inspected January slaughter since 1926.

Prices of lambs have advanced since December. December prices were the lowest since October 1946, the month when price controls were ended. A further seasonal rise is expected in the next few months. Slaughter supplies of lambs are likely to be smaller than last year through most of 1950, because January numbers of stock sheep and of sheep and lambs on feed were smaller than last January and also because producers appear likely to withhold lambs this year to rebuild herds.

Movement of Stocker and Feeder Cattle Larger Than Last Year, Prices Higher

In 8 Corn Belt States, 42 percent more stocker and feeder cattle were received this January than in January last year. Shipments continued large in February. The strength in prices of fed cattle this winter as contrasted with the declining market a year ago has stimulated demand for feeder cattle. Stockers and feeders at Kansas City averaged about $3.00 per 100 lb. higher in February this year than in the same month of 1949.

Demand is likely to be strong throughout the spring, and prices comparatively high, for beef breeding stock, for feeder cattle, and for stockers to go on grass. Prices of both feeder and slaughter heifers in February were substantially above a year earlier and probably reflected a higher price level for breeding heifers as well. Although numbers of beef heifers and calves in the United States are larger than last year, there will be a greater tendency this year to hold them on farms and ranches where raised and fewer are likely to be available for sale. Moreover, steer numbers are smaller than last year. If pasture and range conditions continue favorable, demand for stockers is likely to remain strong relative to the supply available.

Meat Production in First Quarter To Be a Little Smaller Than Last Year

The general level of meat production has been very nearly the same this winter as last. In the October-December quarter of 1949, total production by all commercial slaughterers, which include Federally inspected and all other wholesale and retail slaughterers, was 5,472 million pounds, almost identical with production in that quarter of 1948. Production in the January-March quarter of 1950 may fall slightly short of the 5,084 million pounds produced in the first quarter of 1949 (table 2).

Table 2.- Meat production in commercial establishments, United States, by quarter-year, 1947 to 1949 1/

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
	All meat				
1947	5,419	5,008	4,840	5,912	21,179
1948	5,026	4,650	4,296	5,480	19,452
1949	5,084	4,573	4,731	5,472	19,860
	Beef				
1947	2,542	2,481	2,493	2,580	10,096
1948	2,264	2,108	2,188	2,309	8,869
1949	2,308	2,259	2,424	2,251	9,242
	Veal				
1947	310	336	421	426	1,493
1948	292	321	365	352	1,330
1949	273	287	345	335	1,240
	Lamb and mutton				
1947	198	190	182	209	779
1948	185	158	183	205	731
1949	158	113	153	161	585
	Pork excluding lard				
1947	2,369	2,001	1,744	2,697	8,811
1948	2,285	2,063	1,560	2,614	8,522
1949	2,345	1,914	1,809	2,725	8,793

1/ Total of production in Federally inspected and in all other commercial establishments.

There are two explanations for this 6-month period of interruption to the slow, gradual uptrend in meat production now taking place. First, many feeders of hogs and of cattle aimed for the higher-priced mid-summer and early fall market last year. Consequently, most of the increase in commercial meat production for 1949 over 1948 was confined to the July-September quarter. Production in that quarter was 433 million pounds or 10 percent larger than a year before.

The second reason for little increase in production this winter is the lighter weights at which hogs have been slaughtered. Average slaughter weights for hogs have been declining steadily, except for usual seasonal variations, for about 2 years. The effect of the reduction in weights, and also of a smaller pork yield per 100 lb., shows up in statistics not only for recent months, but for all of 1949 (table 3).

Table 3.- Number of livestock slaughtered, average weights, and meat produced in commercial establishments, 1948 and 1949 1/

Item	Number slaughtered	Live weight: Per head	Live weight: Total	Dressed weight: Per head		Dressed weight: Per 100 lb. live weight		Dressed weight: Total production	
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Pounds		Pounds		Million pounds	
Cattle									
1948	18,676	908	16,951	475		52.3		8,869	
1949	18,276	939	17,155	506		53.9		9,242	
Percent change	- 2.1	+3.4	+ 1.2	+6.5		+3.1		+ 4.2	
Calves									
1948	11,758	205	2,411	113		55.2		1,240	
1949	10,806	207	2,239	115		55.4		1,330	
Percent change	- 8.1	+1.0	- 7.1	+2.0		+0.4		- 6.8	
Sheep and lambs									
1948	16,982	94	1,592	43.0		45.9		731	
1949	13,346	94	1,249	43.8		46.8		585	
Percent change	- 21.4	0	-21.5	+1.9		+2.0		-20.0	
				Pork	Lard	Pork	Lard	Pork	Lard
Hogs									
1948	60,016	247	14,821	142.0	32.4	57.5	13.1	8,522	1,944
1949	64,187	242	15,557	137.0	34.0	56.5	14.0	8,793	2,184
Percent change	+ 6.9	-2.0	+ 5.0	- 3.5	+4.9	-1.7	+6.9	+ 3.2	+12.3

1/ Totals for Federally inspected and all other commercial establishments.

Seven percent more hogs were slaughtered commercially last year than in 1948. The average live weight of commercial slaughter was down from 247 to 242 pounds, or 2 percent. This reduction understates the change made by producers in weights of market barrows and gilts, because a larger part of total hog slaughter was sows last year and average sow weights probably were heavier. Data for Federally inspected hog slaughter show an increase from 12 percent sows in 1948 to 15 percent in 1949. Of hogs received at 7 mid-west markets last year, sows averaged 8 pounds heavier but barrows and gilts 12 pounds lighter than in 1948.

Despite the fact that light hogs contain a larger percentage of lean pork and a smaller percentage of fat than do heavy hogs, the pork yield per 100 lb. was lower in 1949 than in the previous year and the lard yield was higher. Packers apparently chose to render more of the fat cuts into lard instead of selling them for meat. As a result, the reported figure for commercial pork production was only 3.2 percent larger in 1949 than in 1948.

The change to a smaller percentage yield of pork in a year when hogs averaged lighter in weight means that production of lean pork products increased more than did all pork products combined. Output of fatty cuts of meat probably was smaller last year than in 1948. A reasonable estimate is that production of lean pork products increased about 5 percent from 1948 to 1949, in comparison with the increase of 3.2 percent in total pork.

Beef rather than pork contributed most to the small increase in total meat production last year. The relationship between number slaughtered and meat produced for beef was opposite to that for pork. Fewer cattle were slaughtered commercially in 1949 than in 1948. But because many more were grain fed to heavier weight and a larger proportion was steers, the beef yield per head was up 31 pounds or 6.5 percent and total commercial beef production was 4.2 percent larger than in the previous year.

1949 Beef Consumption Per Person Slightly Larger, Pork Consumption Slightly Smaller Than 1948

According to preliminary estimates, consumption of beef per person in 1949 increased 0.7 pound from 1948 to an average of 64.0 pounds, but consumption of pork declined 0.6 pound to 68.1 pounds (table 4). In the third quarter, consumption was larger than a year earlier for both beef and pork. In the fourth quarter, however, beef consumption per person was down from the previous year; and pork consumption, despite the 15 percent larger spring pig crop, was unchanged at 18.8 pounds.

Demand for Meat Probably Slightly Weaker This Winter Than Last

Since prices of meat animals are now averaging a little lower than a year ago while the total supply of meat is not much different, it follows that demand for meat animals is somewhat weaker. Consumer demand for meat has been affected by a small drop in incomes compared with last winter and there is evidence that retail value of meat relative to incomes is a little lower.

Data in table 4 show that the seasonally corrected retail value of meat consumption in the October-December quarter was the lowest it has been for several years. It was substantially lower than in the last quarter of 1948, when prices had not yet receded completely from their exceptional peak of that year. Preliminary indications are that retail value of consumption in the January-March 1950 quarter may be running 4-5 percent lower than a year ago.

The greatest weakness is indicated in demand for pork. However, just as consumption of lean pork has increased more than that of all pork, in the same way the retail value of pork consumption would probably be a few percent higher than the data show, on an exactly comparable basis.

Table 4.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, seasonally adjusted, by quarter year, 1948 and 1949

Quarter-year	Civilian consumption per capita: Actual	Civilian consumption per capita: Seasonally adjusted	Average retail price per pound 1/: Actual 2/	Average retail price per pound 1/: Seasonally adjusted	Index of retail value of civilian consumption per capita seasonally adjusted 3/	Index of disposable personal income per capita seasonally adjusted 3/
	Pounds	Pounds	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent
	All meat					
1948						
Jan.-Mar.	38.2	37.0	---	---	262.5	243
Apr.-June	36.0	38.5	---	---	287.3	253
July-Sept.	33.7	36.0	---	---	283.2	259
Oct.-Dec.	38.5	34.9	---	---	259.8	259
Year	146.4	146.4	---	---	273.2	254
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	37.5	36.3	---	---	244.7	256
Apr.-June	35.2	37.5	---	---	256.5	253
July-Sept.	34.8	37.1	---	---	252.2	250
Oct.-Dec.	37.4	34.0	---	---	225.3	248
Year	144.9	144.9			244.7	252
	Beef					
1948						
Jan.-Mar.	16.3	16.1	66.3	67.6	270.9	243
Apr.-June	15.5	16.8	73.0	73.4	307.7	253
July-Sept.	15.5	15.5	80.9	78.8	303.3	259
Oct.-Dec.	16.0	14.9	74.8	74.9	278.7	259
Year	63.3	63.3	73.7	73.7	290.2	254
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	16.2	16.0	64.0	65.3	259.2	256
Apr.-June	16.1	17.4	65.7	66.2	288.2	253
July-Sept.	16.5	16.4	68.2	66.4	272.1	250
Oct.-Dec.	15.2	14.2	69.3	69.4	245.0	248
Year	64.0	64.0	66.8	66.8	266.1	252
	Pork excluding lard					
1948						
Jan.-Mar.	18.4	17.1	50.2	51.7	259.2	243
Apr.-June	17.1	17.8	50.6	51.4	269.3	253
July-Sept.	14.4	16.9	56.4	54.4	269.0	259
Oct.-Dec.	18.8	16.9	52.0	51.5	254.5	259
Year	68.7	68.7	52.3	52.3	263.0	254
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	18.1	16.8	47.0	48.4	237.8	256
Apr.-June	16.3	16.9	47.4	48.2	238.1	253
July-Sept.	14.9	17.5	49.4	47.6	244.4	250
Oct.-Dec.	18.8	16.9	43.9	43.5	214.8	248
Year	68.1	68.1	46.9	46.9	233.8	252

1/ Not calculated for all meats combined. 2/ Weighted retail prices for all important cuts. 3/ 1935-39=100.

For annual data see table 24, page 49.

If demand should hold at its recent level, prices of hogs are likely to continue lower than in corresponding periods of last year, and prices of cattle also may average a little lower in 1950 than in 1949. For Good grade steers this amounts to a prospective seasonal decline this spring and only a moderate summer advance, in contrast with 1949 when their prices advanced rather steadily beginning in February.

Cattle Numbers Increase in 1949

On January 1, 1950, an estimated 80.3 million cattle and calves were reported on farms and ranches in the United States. This number was up two million from the previous January. Last year's increase was the first substantial one to follow 3 years of decrease beginning in 1945. Numbers were virtually unchanged in 1948. Numbers this January were still 5.3 million short of the all-time record of 85.6 million on January 1, 1945.

Numbers of beef ("non-milk") cattle increased more than those of dairy ("for milk") cattle last year. All beef cattle rose from 41.9 million in January 1949 to 43.0 million in January 1950. However, the increase of 0.9 million in cattle for milk was significant because their numbers had previously declined much faster than those of beef cattle.

The percentage increases were greatest in numbers of beef cows and of all calves. Numbers of beef cows were up 5 percent to 16.8 million, a record high. Heifer calves kept for milk increased 6 percent, and beef calves 5 percent. Milk cows increased 1 percent but were still 11 percent under their peak of 27.8 million in January 1945.

From a regional standpoint, the largest percentage increase in cattle numbers in 1949 occurred in the South Atlantic and South Central States. Numbers were up 10 percent or more in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas. Much of the increase for Southern States was in beef cows, but numbers of milk cows and other classes also were larger. In the North Central States, total cattle numbers were expanded 2 percent. Beef cows were up 6 1/2 percent and beef calves 7 1/2 percent. Milk cow numbers declined there. Cattle numbers in the West as a whole decreased slightly last year.

The aggressive interest in buying beef breeding stock that has been reported this winter points to a further expansion in cattle numbers in 1950. Barring widespread drought in range areas or other serious set-back, numbers are expected to continue upward for several years. Factors encouraging expansion are the comparative stability of prices of cattle at relatively high levels the past few years, the favorable condition of range and pasture, and the abundant grain feed supplies. Improvements in pasture grasses and in their management, shifts of cropland acreage out of wheat, cotton and corn by national allotment programs, and the raising of forage crops as a means of soil conservation -- all these too, stimulate increased production of cattle.

Current expansion in cattle numbers points to an eventual increase in annual slaughter of cattle and calves and production of beef and veal. Little or no increase can be expected in 1950, but in 1951 and thereafter the results of herd expansion will begin to appear. More beef and veal will probably mean lower prices for these meats and for cattle and calves. In recent years, prices of hogs have pointed steadily downward but other classes have been more steady (see cover chart). This pattern is likely to change in the next few years. In the first year or two of increasing beef supplies the decline in cattle prices may be small, because the increase in cattle herds thus far has been moderate and because consumers have demonstrated convincingly the strength of their demand for beef so long as their incomes are high. How large a drop in cattle prices may be expected later will depend on the scale of expansion in numbers during the present cycle; and it will depend on the extent to which consumer incomes retain their present high-employment values.

One consideration indicating that cattle numbers can increase considerably without danger of a severe price break is the rate of growth of the United States population. From January 1942, the mid-point in the last upswing in cattle numbers, to January 1950 the population increased 12 1/2 percent but cattle numbers only 5 1/2 percent. If the population should continue upward at close to present rates of growth, the national cattle herd will have to be 89 millions by 1955 in order to maintain the same ratio to population as existed in 1942. However, the cattle herd will contain a higher proportion of beef cattle in 1955 than it did in 1942, and a January 1955 number of 89 million would produce more beef per person than did the 76 million of 1942.

Sheep Numbers Down Less in 1949 Than Previous Years

Sheep and lambs on farms and ranches January 1, 1950 numbered 30.8 million head. This number was 45 percent below the high point in 1942 and a new record low, but was only 0.86 million or 3 percent less than last January. The smaller reduction last year than in any of the 7 previous years suggests that the long decline is nearly ended.

It is likely that sheep herds will be maintained or expanded somewhat in 1950. The number of sheep and lambs slaughtered will probably be even less than the small number in 1949, and no substantial increase can be expected for several years. Prices of lambs are likely to remain comparatively more favorable than prices of other meat animals. The cycle in numbers and prices for sheep and lambs may eventually be similar to that now developing for cattle, but the changes will occur several years later.

The record of 1945-50 for meat animals can be summed up as one of successive recoveries from a retrenchment induced by the war's end and amplified by the small 1947 corn crop -- recoveries in which hogs were first, cattle second, and sheep last. Price declines therefrom may be expected in the same order.

Wool Price To Be Supported At 90 Percent of Parity in 1950

During the period from April 1, 1950 to March 31, 1951, the normal marketing period for shorn wool, the price of wool will be supported by the Department of Agriculture at 90 percent of the parity price of March 15, 1950. The schedule of support prices by grades will be announced about April 1.

The Agricultural Act of 1949 requires support at between 60 and 90 percent of parity. The choice within that range is to be that necessary to encourage an annual production of 360 million pounds of shorn wool. Production in 1949 was 216 million pounds, and in 1950 is not expected to be greatly different.

Prices of shorn and pulled wool will be supported through purchases, but two changes in method will be adopted. Purchase prices by grades will follow the average market relationships between grades that prevailed in 1949, rather than the prewar relationships as heretofore followed; and producers will be permitted to decide after appraisal whether or not they want to sell their wool to the Department. Previously, wool was consigned without right of withdrawal.

On January 15, 1950 the parity price of wool was 50.0 cents per pound; 90 percent of that parity was 45.0 cents; and farmers received 47.2 cents.

FOREIGN TRADE

Meat Imports Smaller in 1949

Foreign trade in meat is so small that it has little significance in an overall relationship to the quantity produced annually in this country, but it is large enough to command attention. Trade in selected products may be relatively more important than are totals for all meat. Table 5 summarizes trade data for 1948 and 1949. For convenience, data in the table are given both for the reported product weight of major meats, and in carcass weight equivalent of the meat content of all items. Carcass weight equivalent units are comparable with data for production and consumption of meat in this country.

Imports of meat, most of which was beef and veal, amounted in 1949 to 242 million pounds, carcass weight equivalent. This quantity was 31 percent less than imports in 1948. Imports of beef and veal from Canada were about the same in both years, but whereas in 1948 they were concentrated in the months after August when that country lifted its export restrictions, in 1949 they were distributed more evenly over the year. Imports of beef from Argentina and Brazil were smaller last year than in 1948.

Exports Up In 1949

Exports and shipments of pork, the principal meat going into export channels, increased to 104 million pounds, carcass weight equivalent, in 1949. In 1948 they had been 65 million pounds. The carcass weight equivalent of exports and shipments of all meat was 135 million pounds in 1949 and 96 millions in 1948.

Table 5.- United States commercial foreign trade in meat and meat products, in product weight and in carcass weight equivalent, 1948 and 1949 1/

Product and calendar year	Exports, by country of destination: United Kingdom	Germany	Canada 2/	Cuba	All other	Total	Shipments to United States Territories 3/	Total exports and shipments
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Major meat products, in product weight 4/								
Beef and veal 5/								
1948	0.1	---	6.3	---	9.0	15.4	2.6	18.0
1949	---	0.2	11.2	---	8.2	19.6	2.7	22.3
Lamb and mutton								
1948	---	---	---	---	1.8	1.8	0.1	1.9
1949	---	---	---	---	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.9
Pork 6/								
1948	0.2	1.4	4.9	11.9	10.2	28.6	23.9	52.5
1949	10.1	10.3	7.0	15.2	17.0	59.6	29.2	88.8
Sausage 7/								
1948	---	---	---	0.1	3.9	4.0	3.1	7.1
1949	---	---	---	0.1	4.8	4.9	6.6	11.5
All meat products, carcass weight equivalent of meat content 8/								
Beef								
1948	---	---	---	---	---	18.1	5.6	23.7
1949	---	---	---	---	---	21.0	5.7	26.7
Veal								
1948	---	---	---	---	---	1.8	0.4	2.2
1949	---	---	---	---	---	2.0	0.3	2.3
Lamb and mutton								
1948	---	---	---	---	---	4.1	0.3	4.4
1949	---	---	---	---	---	2.2	0.2	2.4
Pork								
1948	---	---	---	---	---	34.8	30.6	65.4
1949	---	---	---	---	---	68.1	35.9	104.0
Total meat								
1948	---	---	---	---	---	58.8	36.9	95.7
1949	---	---	---	---	---	93.3	42.1	135.4

Product and calendar year	Imports, by country of origin: Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay	Canada	All other	Total imports
Major meat products, in product weight 4/						
Beef and veal 5/						
1948	83.8	22.2	23.4	72.8	5.9	208.1
1949	45.0	6.8	19.8	74.8	11.1	157.5
Lamb and mutton						
1948	---	---	---	2.8	0	2.8
1949	---	---	---	3.6	0.1	3.7
Pork 6/						
1948	---	---	---	0.6	0.2	0.8
1949	---	---	---	0.7	2.2	2.9
All meat products, carcass weight equivalent of meat content 8/						
Beef						
1948	---	---	---	---	---	340.9
1949	---	---	---	---	---	228.2
Veal						
1948	---	---	---	---	---	5.1
1949	---	---	---	---	---	6.9
Lamb and mutton						
1948	---	---	---	---	---	2.9
1949	---	---	---	---	---	3.6
Pork	---	---	---	---	---	
1948	---	---	---	---	---	0.8
1949	---	---	---	---	---	3.0
Total meat						
1948	---	---	---	---	---	349.7
1949	---	---	---	---	---	241.7

1/ Excludes the small quantity exported in 1949 by the U. S. Department of Agriclture.
2/ Including Newfoundland.
3/ Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands only.
4/ Includes shipments for military civilian feeding.
5/ Fresh, frozen, pickled, cured, and canned.
6/ Fresh, frozen, pickled, salted, and canned pork; bacon; hams and shoulders.
7/ Including canned sausage.
8/ Carcass weight equivalent of meats and of the meat content of minor and mixed meat products. Meat shipped for military civilian feeding is excluded.

ECA Finances A Small Export of Pork; Also of Lard

In April, 1949 the Economic Cooperation Administration agreed to finance certain exports of pork. In all about 11 million pounds were exported under the ECA authority. All other pork exports last year were paid for by private financing.

Recently the ECA has authorized exports of lard, purchases for which have been made by the Department of Agriculture. The first announcement was that of December 14, 1949. Purchases as of February 27 totaled 117 million pounds, most of which was destined for Germany and Austria. In addition, the Department on February 9 invited offers for purchase of lard under a U. S. Army requisition for relief feeding in Okinawa.

Canada Eases Its Restrictions On Pork Exports to the United States

The Canadian Government notified Dominion packers that beginning January 12, favorable consideration would be given to requests for export of smoked pork products to the United States. This action is another step in an easing of controls on pork exports. Controls were initially applied in July, 1941 as a means of assuring adequate pork supplies for Canadian consumption and for fulfillment of the Canadian-United Kingdom bacon contract. Controls were relaxed somewhat in 1948 and 1949.

Imports of pork have also been controlled by the Canadian Government. Imports of some salted and fat pork have been permitted.

There has been an indication that Canada would lift all export and import controls on pork after June 30, 1950.

In 1949 the United States exported 7.0 million pounds of pork (product weight) to Canada while importing 4.9 million pounds from that country. Prewar (1935-39) exports averaged 7.4 million pounds, imports 8.9 millions.

NEW PARITY PRICES FOR MEAT ANIMALS

New Parity Higher For All Meat Animals Except Sheep

The Agricultural Acts of 1948 and 1949 directed that several changes be made beginning in 1950 in the methods of computing parity prices for farm products. In the 1948 Act the traditional 1909-14 base was adjusted so that a 10-year moving base would govern the relationships among the parity prices for individual commodities 1/. The 1949 Act added cash wages paid to hired labor as an item in the parity index. At the time it made the designated changes the Department of Agriculture added a shift to more

1/ For explanation of the 1948 change see this Situation, July 1948, p. 12.

modern formulas of weights, and to a broader coverage of expense items in the parity index. Such items of purchase as feeder and stocker cattle and baby chicks were added. The several changes result in a parity price for individual commodities considerably different from that which would prevail if the formula in use prior to 1950 were still the only one in effect.

Parity prices as calculated by the new formula are to be the effective parity except in cases where the new parity is more than 5 percent lower than the old. In such an instance the maximum difference in 1950 is to be 5 percent, in 1951 it can be 10 percent, and so on until the new parity is reached.

For illustration, table 6 compares as of January 15, 1950 the old and new methods of computing parity prices for meat animals. Under the old formula the base price is the 1909-14 average price. It is multiplied by the index of prices paid including interest and taxes for a particular month, which is the same index that has been used in parity calculations for a number of years. The product of this calculation gives the parity price for the month.

Under the new formula the adjusted base price is used. For 1950 that price is the average price received by farmers in 1940-49, including an allowance for subsidy payments, divided by the index of prices received by farmers for all commodities in the same 10-year period. (In 1951, calculations will be made from 1941-50 data.) The effect of this calculation is to leave the overall average level of base prices of farm products unchanged but to shift the relationship of prices of one product to another. Because in 1940-49 their prices were higher relative to 1909-14 than were prices of most farm products, all meat animals except sheep received an increase in base price. Sheep were priced comparatively low in 1940-49 and their adjusted base price is $1.09 lower than their 1909-14 base.

In the new formula the adjusted base price is multiplied each month by the new index of prices paid including interest, taxes and wage rates. On January 15, 1950 the new index was 8 points higher than the old one.

At present, new parity prices for meat animals have significance only for reference purposes. Price supports for hogs as now established for the period ending March 31 have been based on a parity standard calculated in 1949 according to the old formula. If support should be announced for hogs after that date or for any other meat animals, it will of course be set in terms of the currently effective parity, which for any class except sheep is new-formula parity. Support for prices of meat animals in 1950 is authorized but not required by present legislation.

On January 15, 1950 farmers received 81 percent of the effective parity price for hogs, 115 percent for beef cattle, 123 percent for veal calves, 93 percent for sheep and 116 percent for lambs (table 7). These prices are not adjusted for normal seasonal variation. Prices received for hogs and cattle in mid-January are usually somewhat below their 12-month average.

Table 6.- Comparison of parity prices as calculated by old and new formulas, and effective parity, January 15, 1950

Class of meat animals	Parity as calculated by old formula, per 100 pounds: Base price 2/	Index of prices paid by farmers including interest and taxes (1910-14=100)	Corresponding parity price	Parity as calculated by new formula, per 100 pounds 1/: Adjusted base price 3/	Index of prices paid by farmers incl. interest, taxes, and wage rates	Corresponding parity price	Effective parity price, per 100 pounds 5/
	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars
Hogs	7.27		17.50	7.52		18.70	18.70
Beef cattle	5.42		13.10	6.78		16.90	16.90
Veal calves	6.75	241	16.30	7.62	249	19.00	19.00
Sheep	4.53		10.90	3.44		8.57	6/10.40
Lambs	5.88		14.20	7.48		18.60	18.60

1/ As prescribed by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948 and 1949.
2/ Average price received by farmers in August 1909-July 1914.
3/ Average price, including subsidy payments to producers, in 1940-49 divided by the index of prices received by farmers in the same period (202; 1910-14=100).
4/ Differs from the index of prices paid, interest and taxes by including wage rates paid hired labor and by shifting most weights from those of 1924-29 to those of 1937-41
5/ New-formula parity, except when it is more than 5 percent lower than old-formula parity. 6/ "Transitional" parity; i.e., 95 percent of old formula parity for 1950.

Table 7.- Comparison of prices received by farmers for meat animals with "old formula", "new formula" and effective parity prices, January 15, 1950

Class of meat animals	Average price received by farmers, Jan. 15, 1950, per 100 lb.	Parity price, per 100 pounds 1/: "Old formula" 2/	"New formula" 3/	Effective parity 4/	Price received as percent of parity 1/: "Old formula"	"New formula"	Effective parity
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Percent
Hogs	15.10	17.50	18.70	18.70	86	81	81
Beef cattle	19.40	13.10	16.90	16.90	148	115	115
Veal calves	23.30	16.30	19.00	19.00	143	123	123
Sheep	9.64	10.90	8.57	10.40	88	113	93
Lambs	21.60	14.20	18.60	18.60	152	116.	116

1/ Parity prices for meat animals contain no correction for normal seasonal variation; hence the percent of parity received for hogs and cattle on January 15 understates somewhat a corresponding average for an entire year. January prices of those classes are usually a little below their 12-month average.
2/ Formula used for all commodities up to December 31, 1949.
3/ Formula prescribed by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948 and 1949.
4/ New formula parity, except that when it is more than 5 percent below old formula parity the maximum reduction for 1950 is 5 percent (in 1951, 10 percent, and so on). This "transitional" parity rule applies to sheep.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	1949 year total or average	1949 January	1949 December	1950 January	1950 February
Cattle and calves	Dollars per 100 pounds					
Beef steers, slaughter						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	do.	28.65	29.41	37.77	36.80	34.70
Good	do.	26.07	24.72	29.91	28.14	27.19
Medium	do.	23.17	22.41	24.50	24.13	24.13
Common	do.	19.77	20.49	19.23	20.44	21.55
All grades	do.	25.80	24.35	26.47	25.98	25.58
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.23	22.84	24.17	24.47	---
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.41	22.53	25.11	24.55	24.06
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	18.79	23.18	17.30	17.50	19.27
Common	do.	2/15.41	2/16.48	2/14.16	15.50	16.59
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/14.38	3/15.50	3/13.22	13.98	14.34
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.64	32.60	27.72	30.66	31.23
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	21.34	22.15	21.44	22.94	24.13
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	---	20.00	19.00	19.40	20.40
Veal calves	do.	---	25.10	22.40	23.30	24.60
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	19.50	21.52	16.10	16.51	17.30
180-200 pounds	do.	19.88	21.57	16.12	16.57	17.53
200-220 pounds	do.	19.94	21.36	15.97	16.40	17.56
220-240 pounds	do.	19.77	20.70	15.60	15.94	17.25
240-270 pounds	do.	19.41	19.84	15.17	15.34	16.78
270-300 pounds	do.	18.87	19.09	14.82	14.87	16.32
All weights	do.	18.62	19.74	15.38	15.54	16.85
Seven markets 4/	do.	18.60	19.68	15.21	15.62	16.78
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.67	16.40	12.72	12.50	14.60
Price received by farmers	do.	---	20.10	14.80	15.10	16.60
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts		14.7	13.8	11.9	12.0	
U. S. price received by farmers		15.8	16.1	13.1	13.1	14.3
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	10.83	10.85	11.20	12.22	13.04
Price received by farmers	do.	---	9.17	9.28	9.64	10.20
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago 6/	do.	25.45	24.66	21.91	23.20	25.32
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	23.06	---	22.88	23.64	25.12
Price received by farmers	do.	---	21.90	21.00	21.60	22.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers 7/	Percent	311	323	280	286	306
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per 100 pounds					
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds		42.66	39.47	45.02	43.90	42.25
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds		49.64	46.90	44.40	45.50	
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.96	22.51	16.88	17.40	18.46
Average per 100 pounds	do.	28.78	30.90	23.17	23.89	25.34
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	24.61	25.82	20.36	20.34	21.47
Average per 100 pounds	do.	34.51	36.20	28.55	28.52	30.10
Retail, United States average						
Beef, Good grade	Cents per pound	66.8	68.5	68.6	67.1	
Lamb		67.6	61.2	64.0	62.8	
Pork, including lard	do.	41.1	42.9	35.9	35.7	
Index numbers meat prices (BLS)	Percent					
Wholesale 8/	do.	229.3	228.2	220.0	217.9	
Retail 9/	do.	221.8	222.8	206.5	208.3	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Wooled lambs, except that 1949 average includes spring lambs June-September.
7/ 1910-14=100.
8/ 1926=100.
9/ 1935-39=100.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals 1/

Item	Unit	1949 year total or average	1949 January	1949 December	1950 January	1950 February
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1935-39=100)	Percent	139	152	154	158	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States						
Cattle and calves	1,000	3,258	94	198	133	
Sheep and lambs	head	2,518	151	71	115	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	13,222	1,126	1,064	1,103	
Calves	do.	6,449	484	511	465	
Sheep and lambs	do.	12,136	1,235	1,058	1,077	
Hogs	do.	53,032	5,377	6,477	5,844	
Percent sows	Percent	15	8	11	10	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	976	980	976	993	
Calves	do.	209	202	209	196	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	97	98	100	
Hogs	do.	248	255	243	247	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	532	531	525	539	
Veal, per head	do.	116	112	119	109	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	47	46	48	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	142	136	138	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56.1	55.7	56.1	55.9	
Lard, per head	do.	36.4	39.7	36.0	37.0	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	14.7	15.5	14.8	15.0	
Total production						
Beef	Million	6,998	596	556	592	
Veal	pounds	746	54	60	50	
Lamb and mutton	do.	536	56	49	51	
Pork 2/	do.	7,352	762	881	804	
Lard	do.	1,923	213	232	215	
Total commercial slaughter 3/						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	1,000	18,276	1,569	1,436	1,510	
Calves	head	10,806	833	837	802	
Sheep and lambs	do.	13,346	1,343	1,152	1,169	
Hogs	do.	64,187	6,572	7,622	7,024	
Total production						
Beef	Million	9,242	793	719	778	
Veal	pounds	1,240	92	97	87	
Lamb and mutton	do.	585	60	53	55	
Pork 2/	do.	8,793	918	1,025	954	
Lard	do.	2,184	240	260	244	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	---	149	91	121	130
Veal	do.	---	21	12	16	13
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	26	11	14	14
Pork	do.	---	469	297	474	581
Total meat and meat products	do.	---	763	493	725	848

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX

The following tables are a statistical appendix comparable to that begun last year and published in the February 1949 issue of this Situation. Most of the tables are similar to those of last year. Notable additions are a tabulation by months of recent years for more data on commercial slaughter, central market prices for more market classes and grades, and data on foreign trade in meat in terms of product weight.

Tables in this appendix will be coordinated closely with the table of monthly data included as the back page to each issue of this Situation. When there become available any significant new data or revisions in these tables, or other important statistical series on meat animals or meats, they will be published in a special section of the monthly Situation captioned "New or Revised Data."

Tables of this appendix having no credit line contain data from the Crop Reporting Board, the Division of Livestock and Poultry Statistics, or the Division of Statistical and Historical Research of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Several tables, as credited, were taken or compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration. Indexes of wholesale and retail prices of meat are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, and population and certain foreign trade data are from the Bureau of the Census.

More complete compilations of statistics of livestock and meats may be obtained by referring to Agricultural Statistics, Livestock Market News Statistics and Related Data (PMA), or annual issue of Crops and Markets (BAE).

Tables 30 to 36 of this appendix bring up to date the report, Meat Supply and Distribution by Quarter-Years, United States, 1941-47 (BAE-PMA).

Index to Statistical Appendix

Index to Statistical Appendix, Continued

1/ Supplementary to "Meat Supply and Distribution by Quarter-Years, United States, 1941-47." BAE-PMA, June 1948 (Processed).

Table 1.- Number of livestock on farms January 1, by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1942 to date

Year	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
			All cattle and calves				
1937-41 Av.	4,927	11,476	19,034	4,521	16,407	11,122	67,488
1942	5,027	12,705	22,445	4,911	18,359	12,578	76,025
1943	5,099	13,047	24,332	5,225	20,062	13,439	81,204
1944	5,280	13,529	25,586	5,598	20,968	14,373	85,334
1945	5,366	13,513	25,746	5,603	21,190	14,155	85,573
1946	5,239	13,102	24,000	5,502	20,625	13,966	82,434
1947	5,237	13,146	23,439	5,575	20,277	13,533	81,207
1948	5,228	12,594	22,143	5,527	19,261	13,373	78,126
1949	5,295	12,504	22,554	5,468	18,986	13,491	78,298
1950 1/	5,387	12,786	32,958	5,866	20,035	13,245	80,277
			Milk cows				
1937-41 Av.	3,199	6,010	6,483	1,873	5,019	2,238	24,822
1942	3,259	6,369	6,891	1,974	5,391	2,429	26,313
1943	3,262	6,578	7,104	2,037	5,643	2,514	27,138
1944	3,360	6,752	7,183	2,097	5,765	2,547	27,704
1945	3,457	6,854	7,002	2,102	5,806	2,549	27,770
1946	3,400	6,707	6,486	2,086	5,554	2,462	26,695
1947	3,387	6,607	6,257	2,066	5,352	2,429	26,098
1948	3,346	6,381	5,837	2,064	5,063	2,348	25,039
1949	3,356	6,253	5,578	2,052	4,865	2,312	24,416
1950 1/	3,406	6,228	5,548	2,130	4,972	2,341	24,625
			Other cows				
1937-41 Av.	31	397	2,431	589	3,633	3,488	10,569
1942	32	515	3,008	724	4,323	3,976	12,578
1943	43	566	3,451	826	4,835	4,259	13,980
1944	52	642	3,992	945	5,319	4,571	15,521
1945	56	687	4,291	1,010	5,800	4,612	16,456
1946	56	626	4,188	1,028	5,811	4,610	16,319
1947	52	676	4,305	1,079	5,871	4,486	16,469
1948	55	647	4,162	1,093	5,660	4,383	16,000
1949	51	650	4,229	1,037	5,630	4,385	15,982
1950 1/	53	692	4,502	1,150	5,920	4,469	16,786
			Total milk animals 2/				
1937-41 Av.	4,504	8,647	9,277	2,701	7,335	3,350	35,814
1942	4,617	9,432	10,170	2,891	8,001	3,726	38,837
1943	4,646	9,670	10,560	3,006	8,485	3,873	40,240
1944	4,813	9,958	10,714	3,124	8,678	3,970	41,257
1945	4,903	9,979	10,352	3,084	8,622	3,909	40,849
1946	4,787	9,700	9,573	3,038	8,222	3,773	39,093
1947	4,786	9,630	9,281	3,043	8,023	3,705	38,468
1948	4,789	9,358	8,734	3,053	7,608	3,633	37,175
1949	4,847	9,236	8,451	3,039	7,335	3,620	36,528
1950 1/	4,949	9,310	8,496	3,219	7,636	3,655	37,265
			Total animals other than for milk 3/				
1937-41 Av.	424	2,829	9,757	1,819	9,072	7,772	31,674
1942	410	3,273	12,275	2,020	10,358	8,852	37,188
1943	453	3,377	13,772	2,219	11,577	9,566	40,964
1944	467	3,571	14,872	2,474	12,290	10,403	44,077
1945	463	3,534	15,394	2,519	12,568	10,246	44,724
1946	452	3,402	14,427	2,464	12,403	10,193	42,341
1947	451	3,516	14,158	2,532	12,254	9,828	42,739
1948	439	3,236	13,409	2,474	11,653	9,740	40,951
1949	448	3,268	14,103	2,429	11,651	9,871	41,770
1950 1/	438	3,476	14,462	2,647	12,399	9,590	43,012

For footnotes see next page.

Continued -

Table 1 .- Number of livestock on farms January 1, by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1942 to date, continued

Year	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
				Hogs			
1937-41 Av.	1,339	13,639	18,681	5,079	9,427	2,462	50,628
1942	1,275	16,130	25,007	5,348	9,908	2,939	60,607
1943	1,520	18,381	31,783	6,076	12,333	3,788	73,881
1944	1,963	20,980	36,111	6,856	13,580	4,251	83,741
1945	1,519	15,420	24,048	5,738	10,112	2,494	59,331
1946	1,332	16,491	26,627	5,079	9,486	2,286	61,301
1947	1,254	15,585	23,561	5,373	9,155	1,993	56,921
1948	1,226	14,982	22,094	5,556	9,112	2,058	55,028
1949	1,246	15,430	23,598	5,395	9,177	2,282	57,128
1950 1/	1,187	16,665	25,430	5,417	9,470	2,255	60,424
				All sheep and lambs			
1937-41 Av.	871	5,755	8,707	1,078	11,690	23,757	51,857
1942	811	5,606	11,320	980	12,940	24,556	56,213
1943	830	5,543	11,634	945	13,150	23,048	55,150
1944	796	4,891	10,585	876	12,290	21,344	50,782
1945	660	4,297	9,891	809	11,650	19,213	46,520
1946	588	3,992	8,590	774	11,074	17,418	42,436
1947	531	3,513	7,758	746	10,037	15,233	37,818
1948	494	3,336	6,360	708	9,116	14,813	34,827
1949	479	2,979	5,730	697	8,029	13,740	31,654
1950 1/	462	2,926	5,511	706	8,258	12,934	30,797
				Stock sheep and lambs			
1937-41 Av.	824	4,530	6,620	1,078	11,410	21,416	45,879
1942	766	4,523	8,384	980	12,645	22,048	49,346
1943	781	4,494	8,224	945	12,795	20,957	48,196
1944	752	3,860	7,492	876	12,110	19,180	44,270
1945	624	3,347	6,322	809	11,390	17,117	39,609
1946	551	2,959	5,240	774	10,839	15,236	35,599
1947	496	2,692	4,786	746	9,752	13,653	32,125
1948	469	2,496	4,277	708	8,991	13,035	29,976
1949	454	2,282	3,907	697	7,894	12,417	27,651
1950 1/	442	2,227	3,784	706	8,090	11,815	27,064
				Horses			
1937-41 Av.	748	2,308	3,655	512	1,917	1,581	10,721
1942	669	1,970	3,347	524	1,861	1,502	9,873
1943	640	1,859	3,257	525	1,832	1,492	9,605
1944	610	1,718	3,103	529	1,816	1,416	9,192
1945	582	1,561	2,929	525	1,771	1,347	8,715
1946	549	1,389	2,652	516	1,692	1,255	8,053
1947	506	1,194	2,314	501	1,581	1,153	7,249
1948	459	1,023	2,063	485	1,494	1,065	6,589
1949	407	875	1,829	452	1,367	968	5,898
1950 1/	354	743	1,618	423	1,266	906	5,310
				All work stock 4/			
1937-41 Av.	805	2,500	4,063	1,499	4,346	1,672	14,884
1942	718	2,116	3,702	1,470	4,074	1,575	13,655
1943	685	1,994	3,594	1,450	3,949	1,559	13,231
1944	649	1,836	3,397	1,440	3,814	1,477	12,613
1945	615	1,665	3,199	1,414	3,653	1,404	11,950
1946	579	1,473	2,890	1,381	3,433	1,307	11,063
1947	533	1,258	2,509	1,341	3,180	1,200	10,021
1948	481	1,075	2,214	1,292	2,959	1,109	9,130
1949	424	917	1,953	1,226	2,719	1,007	8,246
1950 1/	368	778	1,729	1,156	2,491	941	7,463

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Milk cows, and heifers and heifer calves kept for milk cows.
3/ Other cows, heifers and calves, and all steers and bulls. Most of the cattle on feed January 1 are included in this category.
4/ Horses and mules.

Table 2.- Number of cattle on farms and ranches January 1, by classes, 1930-50

Year	For milk: Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over	For milk: Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	For milk: Heifer calves	For milk: Total	Not for milk: Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over	Not for milk: Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	Not for milk: Calves	Not for milk: Steers	Not for milk: Bulls	Not for milk: Total	All cattle
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1930	23,032	4,851	5,199	33,082	9,162	2,799	8,885	5,608	1,467	27,921	61,003
1931	23,820	4,962	5,189	33,971	9,809	3,015	8,915	5,798	1,522	29,059	63,030
1932	24,896	5,020	5,449	35,365	10,439	3,113	9,744	5,560	1,580	30,436	65,801
1933	25,936	5,250	5,674	36,860	11,346	3,414	11,241	5,765	1,654	33,420	70,280
1934	26,931	5,382	5,675	37,988	12,678	3,656	12,226	6,069	1,752	36,381	74,369
1935	26,082	4,995	5,280	36,357	11,151	3,362	10,980	5,323	1,673	32,489	68,846
1936	25,196	4,772	5,484	35,452	11,048	3,493	10,574	5,637	1,643	32,395	67,847
1937	24,649	4,899	5,305	34,853	10,682	3,229	10,395	5,325	1,614	31,245	66,098
1938	24,466	4,808	5,500	34,774	10,132	3,136	10,053	5,555	1,599	30,475	65,249
1939	24,600	5,122	5,904	35,626	9,987	3,058	10,572	5,192	1,594	30,403	66,029
1940	24,940	5,525	5,967	36,432	10,676	3,357	10,936	5,283	1,625	31,877	68,309
1941	25,453	5,676	6,254	37,383	11,366	3,789	11,413	6,119	1,685	34,372	71,755
1942	26,313	5,889	6,635	38,837	12,578	4,055	12,219	6,596	1,740	37,188	76,025
1943	27,138	6,067	7,035	40,240	13,980	4,547	13,239	7,361	1,837	40,964	81,204
1944	27,704	6,352	7,201	41,257	15,521	4,971	13,768	7,849	1,968	44,077	85,334
1945	27,770	6,307	6,772	40,849	16,456	5,069	12,871	8,329	1,999	44,724	85,573
1946	26,695	5,803	6,595	39,093	16,319	4,854	12,565	7,715	1,888	43,341	82,434
1947	26,098	5,602	6,768	38,468	16,469	4,664	12,595	7,164	1,847	42,739	81,207
1948	25,039	5,649	6,487	37,175	16,000	4,541	11,890	6,743	1,777	40,951	78,126
1949	24,416	5,496	6,616	36,528	15,982	4,689	11,986	7,395	1,718	41,770	78,298
1950 1/	24,625	5,610	7,030	37,265	16,786	4,863	12,593	7,027	1,743	43,012	80,277

1/ Preliminary.

Table 3.- Number of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, on feed January 1, by regions, 1934 to date

Year	Pennsylvania	North Central States: East North Central	North Central States: West North Cent.: 3 Corn Belt 1/	North Central States: West North Cent.: 4 Plains 2/	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States: California	Western States: Other Western	United States
	Cattle and calves							
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1934	56	593	1,083	735	98	77	248	2,890
1935	76	579	890	339	60	71	200	2,215
1936	84	750	1,130	640	145	100	353	3,202
1937	84	740	947	333	125	138	392	2,759
1938	92	840	1,199	452	192	152	409	3,336
1939	78	855	1,166	530	194	125	355	3,303
1940	74	944	1,330	522	194	163	406	3,633
1941	72	1,002	1,509	639	230	169	444	4,065
1942	70	961	1,521	772	251	128	482	4,185
1943	80	993	1,612	928	264	154	414	4,445
1944	75	905	1,517	802	172	134	410	4,015
1945	70	907	1,642	1,020	210	125	437	4,411
1946	82	888	1,500	948	166	149	478	4,211
1947	90	961	1,552	904	171	166	463	4,307
1948	85	850	1,250	744	165	209	518	3,821
1949	88	939	1,501	965	214	258	565	4,530
1950 3/	88	1,045	1,629	914	216	196	464	4,552

Year	11 Corn Belt States 4/: East	11 Corn Belt States 4/: West	Western States 5/	New York	United States
	Sheep and lambs				
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1934	812	2,000	2,402	45	5,259
1935	1,040	2,330	2,249	50	5,669
1936	1,177	2,085	2,389	50	5,701
1937	1,203	1,590	2,754	50	5,597
1938	1,368	1,913	2,765	45	6,091
1939	1,194	2,007	2,639	45	5,885
1940	1,172	1,987	2,642	40	5,841
1941	1,186	2,492	2,744	54	6,479
1942	1,083	2,761	2,978	45	6,867
1943	1,049	3,260	2,596	49	6,954
1944	1,031	2,931	2,506	44	6,512
1945	950	3,404	2,521	36	6,911
1946	1,033	3,182	2,585	37	6,837
1947	821	2,872	1,965	35	5,693
1948	840	2,003	1,983	25	4,851
1949	697	1,771	1,510	25	4,003
1950 3/	699	1,685	1,329	20	3,733

1/ Minn., Iowa, Mo. 2/ N. Dak., S. Dak., Nebr., Kansas. 3/ Preliminary.
4/ North Central States except N. Dak. 5/ Eight mountain States, 3 Pacific States, Texas, Oklahoma, and N. Dakota.

Table 4.- Number of sows farrowing and pigs saved, by spring and fall crops, and number of calves born and lambs saved, 1930 to date

Year	Sows farrowing: Spring 1/	Sows farrowing: Fall 2/	Sows farrowing: Total	Pigs per litter: Spring 1/	Pigs per litter: Fall 2/	Pigs saved: Spring 1/	Pigs saved: Fall 2/	Pigs saved: Total	Calves born	Lambs saved
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Number	Number	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1930	8,278	4,073	12,351	5.96	6.09	49,332	24,803	74,135	25,087	29,467
1931	8,969	4,797	13,766	6.02	6.09	53,984	29,192	83,176	26,056	31,557
1932	8,810	5,179	13,989	5.79	6.08	51,031	31,494	82,525	27,568	29,986
1933	9,122	5,207	14,329	5.86	5.90	53,460	30,740	84,200	28,935	29,768
1934	6,825	2,936	9,761	5.82	5.81	39,698	17,063	56,766	30,240	30,433
1935	5,467	3,857	9,324	6.01	6.03	32,884	23,260	56,144	27,473	27,813
1936	6,954	3,957	10,911	5.96	6.14	41,422	24,303	65,725	28,201	29,762
1937	6,177	3,845	10,022	6.23	6.24	38,525	23,994	62,519	28,033	29,170
1938	6,795	4,517	11,312	6.36	6.32	43,289	28,566	71,855	27,787	30,420
1939	8,692	5,352	14,044	6.12	6.30	53,238	33,714	86,952	28,879	29,913
1940	8,247	4,763	13,010	6.01	6.36	49,584	30,282	79,866	29,886	31,082
1941	7,760	5,535	13,295	6.36	6.43	49,368	35,584	84,952	31,868	32,610
1942	9,684	6,840	16,524	6.31	6.40	61,093	43,810	104,903	34,388	32,312
1943	12,174	7,565	19,739	6.10	6.29	74,223	47,584	121,807	34,797	30,924
1944	9,246	4,882	14,128	6.03	6.33	55,754	30,905	86,659	37,040	28,642
1945	8,298	5,426	13,724	6.29	6.38	52,189	34,593	86,782	35,176	27,042
1946	8,109	4,713	12,822	6.46	6.48	52,392	30,548	82,940	34,550	24,540
1947	8,652	4,907	13,559	6.10	6.39	52,802	31,345	84,147	35,234	22,082
1948	7,967	5,158	13,122	6.44	6.58	51,266	33,921	85,187	33,808	20,011
1949	9,150	5,726	14,876	6.45	6.51	59,039	37,262	96,301	---	18,906
1950	3/9,797	---		4/6.40		4/62,500	---	---		

1/ In six months beginning December of preceding year.
2/ In six months beginning June.
3/ As indicated by breeding intentions reports in December 1949.
4/ Average number pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated number of 1950 spring pigs.
Number pigs rounded to nearest 500,000 head.
For data for 1924-29 see the Livestock and Meat Situation, Feb. 1949, p. 19.

Table 5.- Number of cattle and calves on farms, calf crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand, Jan. 1: All cattle	On hand, Jan. 1: All cows 2 years ✓	Calves born: Percentage of cows 2 years ✓	Calves born: Number	In-shipments 2/	Marketings 3/: Cattle	Marketings 3/: Calves	Farm slaughter: Cattle	Farm slaughter: Calves	Deaths: Cattle	Deaths: Calves	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	61,003	32,194	78	25,087	5,145	15,232	8,662	487	677	1,203	1,944	13,263
1931	63,030	33,629	77	26,056	4,729	15,021	8,475	520	755	1,328	1,915	13,386
1932	65,801	35,335	78	27,568	4,499	14,569	8,170	717	792	1,349	1,991	14,232
1933	70,280	37,282	78	28,935	4,978	15,928	8,852	790	842	1,372	2,040	15,405
1934 4/	74,369	39,609	76	30,240	4,419	23,325	11,450	828	985	1,437	2,157	14,538
1935 4/	68,846	37,233	74	27,473	5,259	19,041	9,363	632	866	1,561	2,268	13,651
1936	67,847	36,244	78	28,201	4,990	19,991	10,029	613	888	1,349	2,070	14,438
1937	66,098	35,331	79	28,033	5,111	18,854	10,298	570	785	1,405	2,081	13,746
1938	65,249	34,598	80	27,787	5,635	18,552	9,560	569	725	1,308	1,928	14,047
1939	66,029	34,587	83	28,879	6,416	18,380	10,076	571	755	1,298	1,935	15,177
1940	68,309	35,616	84	29,886	7,026	18,413	10,365	571	728	1,397	1,992	15,702
1941	71,755	36,819	87	31,868	7,185	18,948	11,001	571	684	1,461	2,118	17,029
1942	76,025	38,891	88	34,388	8,514	20,740	11,787	646	641	1,560	2,349	18,568
1943	81,204	41,118	85	34,797	7,442	21,310	11,177	708	620	1,734	2,560	19,159
1944	85,334	43,225	86	37,040	7,233	23,627	14,323	854	724	1,734	2,772	19,708
1945	85,573	44,226	80	35,176	8,254	27,391	13,197	916	741	1,644	2,680	19,345
1946	82,434	43,014	80	34,550	8,877	26,188	12,656	943	758	1,566	2,543	18,782
1947	81,207	42,567	83	35,234	8,281	26,995	14,117	860	682	1,473	2,469	19,055
1948	78,126	41,039	82	33,808	7,770	23,325	12,826	800	561	1,405	2,292	18,376
1949	78,298	40,398										
1950	80,277	41,411										

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of calf crop, inshipments and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases.
For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, p. 20.

Table 6.- Number of hogs on farms, pig crops and disposition, and liveweight of farm production, United States, 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Pigs saved: Spring	Pigs saved: Fall	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/	Farm slaughter	Deaths	Liveweight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	55,705	49,332	24,803	477	53,796	13,540	8,146	15,176
1931	54,835	53,984	29,192	1,366	55,972	14,338	9,766	16,541
1932	59,301	51,031	31,494	477	55,844	15,580	8,752	16,368
1933 4/	62,127	53,460	30,740	1,454	65,661	15,244	8,253	16,566
1934	58,621	39,698	17,068	1,237	55,750	15,110	6,698	12,385
1935	39,066	32,884	23,260	481	32,749	13,348	6,619	10,673
1936	42,975	41,422	24,303	639	44,809	14,295	7,152	12,976
1937	43,083	38,525	23,994	367	40,665	13,333	7,446	12,506
1938	44,525	43,289	28,566	516	46,089	13,325	7,470	14,372
1939	50,012	53,238	33,714	637	52,906	13,980	9,550	17,079
1940	61,165	49,584	30,282	607	64,262	14,155	8,868	17,043
1941	54,353	49,368	35,584	741	57,695	12,789	8,955	17,489
1942	60,607	61,093	43,810	600	67,423	12,533	12,273	21,105
1943	73,881	74,223	47,584	771	83,187	14,016	15,515	25,375
1944	83,741	55,754	30,905	658	86,331	13,551	11,845	20,583
1945	59,331	52,189	34,593	464	60,959	13,631	10,686	19,096
1946	61,301	52,392	30,548	464	64,370	13,850	9,564	19,041
1947	56,921	52,802	31,345	497	63,524	12,781	10,232	18,667
1948	55,028	51,266	33,921	457	61,833	12,267	9,527	18,789
1949	57,128	59,039	37,262					
1950	60,424	5/ 62,500						

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of pig crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipment and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases.
5/ Indicated by farmers' intentions on December 1 at average size of litters as adjusted for trend.
For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1949, p. 21.

Table 7.- Number of sheep and lambs on farms, lamb crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand Jan. 1	Lambs saved: Number	Lambs saved: Pct. of ewes 1 year +	Inshipments 2/: Sheep	Inshipments 2/: Lambs	Marketings 3/: Sheep	Marketings 3/: Lambs	Farm slaughter: Sheep	Farm slaughter: Lambs	Deaths: Sheep	Deaths: Lambs	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	51,565	29,467	85	925	5,886	3,212	24,144	222	252	4,149	2,631	1,965
1931	53,233	31,557	86	837	7,546	4,356	26,862	290	301	4,472	2,990	2,052
1932	53,902	29,986	81	517	5,438	2,943	25,017	338	386	5,467	2,638	1,829
1933	53,054	29,768	80	771	6,184	2,825	25,178	352	414	5,106	2,399	1,860
1934 4/	53,503	30,433	82	887	6,956	7,013	25,079	354	436	4,426	2,663	1,911
1935	51,808	27,813	79	1,018	6,452	4,560	23,796	342	338	4,218	2,701	1,835
1936	51,136	29,762	84	666	6,037	4,627	24,206	305	332	4,373	2,910	1,852
1937	50,848	29,170	84	742	6,564	4,579	24,245	295	303	4,172	2,667	1,932
1938	51,063	30,420	88	862	6,606	4,565	25,767	295	315	3,891	2,770	2,038
1939	51,348	29,913	86	1,107	6,839	4,415	25,459	292	305	3,951	2,678	2,029
1940	52,107	31,082	87	1,060	7,186	4,384	25,846	272	299	3,910	2,804	2,101
1941	53,920	32,610	90	935	7,440	4,231	26,510	292	290	4,191	3,178	2,251
1942	56,213	32,312	86	828	8,020	6,064	28,598	291	287	4,029	2,954	2,313
1943	55,150	30,924	83	639	7,624	7,818	27,505	289	287	4,350	3,306	2,108
1944	50,782	28,642	84	576	6,844	7,362	25,349	279	283	4,095	2,956	1,938
1945	46,520	27,042	86	591	7,005	7,257	24,986	274	297	3,418	2,490	1,912
1946	42,436	24,540	89	730	6,808	6,496	24,172	276	304	3,170	2,278	1,763
1947	37,818	22,082	88	652	6,000	5,052	21,116	257	302	2,890	2,108	1,579
1948	34,827	20,011	85	623	5,653	4,565	19,015	244	298	3,000	2,031	1,407
1949	31,654	18,906	87									
1950	30,797											

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketing, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of lambcrop, in shipments, and hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases.
For data for 1924-29 see Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, p. 22.

Table 8.- Meat production and consumption from total United States slaughter, 1899 to date 1/

Year	Beef: Production	Beef: Consumption: Total	Beef: Consumption: Per capita	Veal: Production	Veal: Consumption: Total	Veal: Consumption: Per capita	Lamb and mutton: Production	Lamb and mutton: Consumption: Total	Lamb and mutton: Consumption: Per capita	Pork (excluding lard): Production	Pork (excluding lard): Consumption: Total	Pork (excluding lard): Consumption: Per capita	All meats: Production	All meats: Consumption: Total	All meats: Consumption: Per capita	Lard: Production	Lard: Consumption 2/: Total	Lard: Consumption 2/: Per capita	Population July 1 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.
1899	5,522	5,029	67.2	387	387	5.2	487	486	6.5	6,310	5,371	71.8	12,706	11,273	150.7	1,679	954	12.8	74.8
1900	5,628	5,104	67.1	397	397	5.2	493	492	6.5	6,329	5,476	71.9	12,847	11,469	150.7	1,653	1,002	13.2	76.1
1901	5,814	5,266	67.9	422	422	5.4	548	548	7.0	6,357	5,493	70.8	13,141	11,729	151.1	1,650	997	12.8	77.6
1902	5,649	5,148	65.0	476	476	6.0	564	560	7.1	5,936	5,288	66.7	12,625	11,472	144.8	1,493	956	12.1	79.2
1903	6,240	5,711	70.9	492	492	6.1	563	560	6.9	6,067	5,498	68.2	13,362	12,261	152.1	1,529	952	11.8	80.6
1904	6,176	5,719	69.6	491	491	6.0	538	537	6.5	6,387	5,803	70.6	13,592	12,550	152.7	1,638	1,031	12.5	82.2
1905	6,504	5,973	71.3	556	556	6.6	530	529	6.3	6,629	5,945	71.0	14,219	13,003	155.2	1,742	991	11.8	83.8
1906	6,537	6,087	71.3	598	598	7.0	543	542	6.3	6,793	6,065	71.0	14,471	13,292	155.6	1,735	1,002	11.7	85.4
1907	6,544	6,141	70.6	626	626	7.2	553	551	6.3	7,059	6,443	74.1	14,782	13,761	158.2	1,790	1,146	13.2	87.0
1908	6,662	6,393	72.1	637	637	7.2	559	557	6.3	7,535	6,898	77.7	15,393	14,485	163.3	1,911	1,277	14.4	88.7
1909	6,915	6,713	73.5	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.7	6,557	6,065	66.4	14,740	14,044	153.8	1,628	1,127	12.3	91.3
1910	6,647	6,508	69.8	667	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.8	13,998	13,527	145.1	1,553	1,156	12.4	93.2
1911	6,549	6,426	67.9	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.3	6,961	6,482	68.4	14,869	14,264	150.6	1,747	1,138	12.0	94.7
1912	6,234	6,153	64.0	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	66.2	14,453	13,901	144.7	1,658	1,102	11.5	96.1
1913	6,182	6,157	62.8	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.2	6,979	6,501	66.3	14,475	13,968	142.5	1,653	1,073	10.9	98.0
1914	6,017	6,144	61.5	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.6	14,103	13,877	138.9	1,554	1,090	10.9	99.9
1915	6,075	5,668	56.0	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	66.1	14,886	13,561	133.9	1,689	1,198	11.8	101.3
1916	6,460	6,003	58.4	655	656	6.4	585	595	5.8	8,207	7,037	68.4	15,907	14,291	139.0	1,706	1,228	11.9	102.8
1917	7,239	6,687	64.2	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.5	15,501	13,988	134.2	1,451	1,091	10.5	104.2
1918	7,726	7,167	68.0	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.6	17,341	14,811	140.5	1,899	1,291	12.2	105.4
1919	6,756	6,462	61.0	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.4	16,642	14,596	137.8	1,920	1,174	11.1	105.9
1920	6,306	6,293	58.6	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	63.1	15,334	14,489	135.6	1,958	1,319	12.3	107.3
1921	6,022	6,024	55.1	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.1	7,697	7,029	64.3	15,178	14,539	133.0	2,108	1,217	11.1	109.3
1922	6,588	6,503	58.6	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	65.3	16,138	15,162	136.7	2,302	1,503	13.6	110.9
1923	6,721	6,671	59.2	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.3	9,483	8,310	73.7	17,708	16,492	146.3	2,718	1,643	14.6	112.7
1924	6,877	6,786	59.1	972	977	8.5	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.5	17,595	16,810	146.3	2,660	1,663	14.5	114.9
1925	6,878	6,888	59.1	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.2	8,128	7,734	66.3	16,598	16,220	139.1	2,153	1,453	12.5	116.6
1926	7,089	7,074	59.8	955	959	8.1	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.7	16,649	16,199	137.0	2,206	1,465	12.4	118.2
1927	6,395	6,484	54.1	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.3	8,430	8,058	67.3	16,321	16,048	134.0	2,263	1,541	12.9	119.8
1928	5,771	5,872	48.4	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.5	9,041	8,545	70.5	16,248	15,860	130.8	2,458	1,626	13.4	121.3
1929	5,871	6,048	49.3	761	766	6.3	682	686	5.6	8,833	8,484	69.2	16,147	15,984	130.4	2,461	1,598	13.0	122.6
1930	5,917	6,021	48.6	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.7	8,482	8,246	66.6	16,016	15,885	128.3	2,227	1,584	12.8	123.8
1931	6,009	6,025	48.3	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.1	8,739	8,477	67.9	16,456	16,212	129.9	2,307	1,706	13.7	124.8
1932	5,789	5,830	46.4	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	70.3	16,418	16,359	130.2	2,380	1,814	14.4	125.6
1933 4/	6,440	6,469	51.2	891	891	7.1	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	70.3	17,417	17,094	135.3	2,475	1,772	14.0	126.3
1934 4/	8,345	8,066	63.5	1,246	1,182	9.3	851	798	6.3	8,397	8,141	64.0	18,839	18,187	143.1	2,091	1,648	13.0	127.1
1935 4/	6,608	6,770	52.9	1,023	1,087	8.5	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	48.1	14,427	14,935	116.7	1,276	1,226	9.6	128.0
1936 4/	7,358	7,742	60.1	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.6	7,474	7,061	54.8	16,761	16,727	129.8	1,679	1,449	11.2	128.9
1937	6,798	7,107	54.8	1,108	1,108	8.6	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,185	55.4	15,709	16,257	125.4	1,431	1,361	10.5	129.6
1938	6,908	7,058	54.0	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.8	16,479	16,500	126.2	1,728	1,440	11.0	130.7
1939	7,011	7,159	54.4	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.6	8,660	8,474	64.3	17,534	17,493	132.8	2,037	1,671	12.7	131.7
1940	7,175	7,257	54.7	981	981	7.4	876	873	6.6	10,044	9,701	73.0	19,076	18,812	141.7	2,288	1,924	14.5	132.8
1941	8,082	8,021	60.5	1,036	1,005	7.6	923	901	6.8	9,528	9,007	67.9	19,569	18,934	142.8	2,228	1,879	14.2	132.6
1942	8,843	8,049	60.8	1,151	1,084	8.2	1,042	950	7.2	10,876	8,368	63.3	21,912	18,451	139.5	2,401	1,759	13.3	132.3
1943	8,571	6,860	52.9	1,167	1,059	8.2	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	78.5	24,482	18,921	146.0	2,865	1,820	14.0	129.6
1944	9,112	7,146	55.3	1,738	1,594	12.4	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	79.2	25,178	19,827	153.5	3,054	1,824	14.1	129.2
1945	10,275	7,663	59.0	1,661	1,533	11.8	1,054	943	7.3	10,697	8,598	66.3	23,687	18,737	144.4	2,066	1,619	12.5	129.8
1946	9,373	8,533	61.3	1,440	1,379	9.9	970	925	6.6	11,173	10,530	75.6	22,956	21,367	153.4	2,138	1,669	12.0	139.3
1947	10,428	9,913	69.1	1,599	1,540	10.7	802	765	5.4	10,601	10,018	69.8	23,430	22,236	155.0	2,426	1,927	13.4	143.5
1948	9,183	9,261	63.3	1,419	1,380	9.4	753	738	5.0	10,241	10,029	68.7	21,596	21,408	146.4	2,368	2,020	13.8	146.2
1949 5/	9,539	9,512	64.0	1,323	1,300	8.7	605	609	4.1	10,412	10,116	68.1	21,879	21,537	144.9	2,594	1,956	13.2	148.6

1/ Beginning 1940, data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Beginning 1941, consumption is civilian only. Units are carcass weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.
2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.
3/ Beginning 1909, adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years.
4/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs, data for which can be found in The Livestock and Meat Situation for February, 1949, p. 23.
5/ Preliminary.

Table 9.- Livestock slaughtered and meat and lard produced, by class of slaughter, United States, 1935 to date 1/

Year	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Total	Livestock slaughter: Farm	Livestock slaughter: Total	Meat production: Federally inspected	Meat production: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Total	Meat production: Farm	Meat production: Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle					Beef				
1935 2/	9,853	4,320	14,173	632	14,805	4,610	1,753	6,363	245	6,608
1936 2/	10,976	4,312	15,288	613	15,901	5,317	1,802	7,119	239	7,358
1937	10,070	4,614	14,684	570	15,254	4,699	1,879	6,578	220	6,798
1938	9,776	4,477	14,253	569	14,822	4,798	1,887	6,685	223	6,908
1939	9,446	4,604	14,050	571	14,621	4,803	1,983	6,786	225	7,011
1940	9,743	4,644	14,387	571	14,958	4,964	1,984	6,948	227	7,175
1941	10,932	4,916	15,848	571	16,419	5,732	2,126	7,858	224	8,082
1942	12,340	5,047	17,387	646	18,033	6,343	2,249	8,592	251	8,843
1943	11,721	5,416	17,137	708	17,845	5,966	2,340	8,306	265	8,571
1944	13,955	5,035	18,990	854	19,844	6,652	2,149	8,801	311	9,112
1945	14,531	6,244	20,775	916	21,691	7,236	2,700	9,936	339	10,275
1946	11,402	7,479	18,881	943	19,824	5,661	3,349	9,010	363	9,373
1947	15,524	6,009	21,533	860	22,393	7,535	2,561	10,096	332	10,428
1948	12,994	5,682	18,676	800	19,476	6,433	2,436	8,869	314	9,183
1949	13,222	5,054	18,276			6,998	2,244	9,242	3/297	9,539
	Calves					Veal				
1935 2/	5,718	3,048	8,766	866	9,632	608	322	930	93	1,023
1936 2/	6,070	3,050	9,120	888	10,008	653	327	980	95	1,075
1937	6,281	3,238	9,519	785	10,304	675	348	1,023	85	1,108
1938	5,492	3,089	8,581	725	9,306	581	332	913	81	994
1939	5,264	3,172	8,436	755	9,191	559	348	907	84	991
1940	5,358	3,003	8,361	728	9,089	568	328	896	85	981
1941	5,461	3,107	8,568	684	9,252	599	353	952	84	1,036
1942	5,760	3,317	9,077	641	9,718	667	399	1,066	85	1,151
1943	5,209	4,111	9,320	620	9,940	597	481	1,078	89	1,167
1944	7,769	5,749	13,518	724	14,242	926	703	1,629	109	1,738
1945	7,020	5,884	12,904	741	13,645	823	729	1,552	109	1,661
1946	5,841	5,569	11,410	758	12,168	642	687	1,329	111	1,440
1947	7,933	5,080	13,013	682	13,695	904	589	1,493	106	1,599
1948	6,907	4,851	11,758	561	12,319	791	539	1,330	89	1,419
1949	6,449	4,357	10,806			746	494	1,240	3/83	1,323
	Sheep and lambs					Lamb and mutton				
1935	17,644	3,676	21,320	680	22,000	701	147	848	29	877
1936	17,216	3,702	20,918	637	21,555	680	147	827	27	854
1937	17,270	3,587	20,857	598	21,455	683	143	826	26	852
1938	18,060	3,753	21,813	610	22,423	720	151	871	26	897
1939	17,241	3,776	21,017	597	21,614	694	152	846	26	872
1940	17,349	3,651	21,000	571	21,571	702	150	852	24	876
1941	18,122	3,605	21,727	582	22,309	749	150	899	24	923
1942	21,624	3,383	25,007	578	25,585	879	139	1,018	24	1,042
1943	23,363	3,134	26,497	576	27,073	958	122	1,080	24	1,104
1944	21,875	2,918	24,793	562	25,355	887	114	1,001	23	1,024
1945	21,218	2,850	24,068	571	24,639	913	117	1,030	24	1,054
1946	19,884	2,350	22,234	580	22,814	850	96	946	24	970
1947	16,667	1,540	18,207	559	18,766	717	62	779	23	802
1948	15,343	1,639	16,982	542	17,524	665	66	731	22	753
1949	12,137	1,209	13,346			536	49	585	3/20	605
	Hogs					Pork, excluding lard				
1935	26,057	6,606	32,663	13,348	46,011	3,494	761	4,255	1,664	5,919
1936	36,055	8,380	44,435	14,295	58,730	4,737	965	5,702	1,772	7,474
1937	31,642	8,740	40,382	13,333	53,715	4,254	1,011	5,265	1,686	6,951
1938	36,186	9,416	45,602	13,325	58,927	4,884	1,111	5,995	1,685	7,680
1939	41,368	11,213	52,581	13,980	66,561	5,552	1,337	6,889	1,771	8,660
1940	50,398	13,057	63,455	14,155	77,610	6,614	1,632	8,246	1,798	10,044
1941	46,520	12,088	58,608	12,789	71,397	6,345	1,559	7,904	1,624	9,528
1942	53,897	12,117	66,014	12,533	78,547	7,562	1,672	9,234	1,642	10,876
1943	63,431	17,779	81,210	14,016	95,226	9,308	2,454	11,762	1,878	13,640
1944	69,017	15,500	84,517	13,551	98,068	9,456	2,046	11,502	1,802	13,304
1945	40,960	17,300	58,260	13,631	71,891	6,387	2,456	8,843	1,854	10,697
1946	44,394	18,000	62,394	13,850	76,244	6,642	2,592	9,234	1,939	11,173
1947	49,116	12,813	61,929	12,781	74,710	7,080	1,731	8,811	1,790	10,601
1948	47,615	12,401	60,016	12,267	72,283	6,832	1,690	8,522	1,719	10,241
1949	53,032	11,155	64,187			7,352	1,441	8,793	3/1,619	10,412
	Lard production					All meat, excluding lard				
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds					
1935 2/	662				1,276	9,413	2,983	12,396	2,031	14,427
1936 2/	992				1,679	11,387	3,241	14,628	2,133	16,761
1937	759				1,431	10,311	3,381	13,692	2,017	15,709
1938	1,034				1,728	10,983	3,481	14,464	2,015	16,479
1939	1,272				2,037	11,608	3,820	15,428	2,106	17,534
1940	1,527				2,288	12,848	4,094	16,942	2,134	19,076
1941	1,526				2,228	13,425	4,188	17,613	1,956	19,569
1942	1,724				2,401	15,451	4,459	19,910	2,002	21,912
1943	2,080				2,865	16,829	5,397	22,226	2,256	24,482
1944	2,367				3,054	17,921	5,012	22,933	2,245	25,178
1945	1,311				2,066	15,359	6,002	21,361	2,326	23,687
1946	1,344				2,138	13,795	6,724	20,519	2,437	22,956
1947	1,722	277	1,999	427	2,426	16,236	4,943	21,179	2,251	23,430
1948	1,680	264	1,944	424	2,368	14,721	4,731	19,452	2,144	21,596
1949	1,923	261	2,184			15,632	4,228	19,860	3/2,019	21,879

1/ Beginning 1940, excludes slaughter and meat production under Federal inspection in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands.
2/ Includes slaughter for food use for Government account, data for which may be found in the Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, p. 24.
3/ Preliminary estimate.
4/ Including rendered pork fat.

Table 10.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1945 to date 1/

Year and month	Cattle: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Cattle: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle: Slaughter: Total commercial	Cattle: Beef production: Federally inspected	Cattle: Beef production: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle: Beef production: Total commercial	Calves: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Calves: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Calves: Slaughter: Total commercial	Calves: Veal production: Federally inspected	Calves: Veal production: Other wholesale and retail	Calves: Veal production: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1945												
Jan.	1,283			618			559			60		
Feb.	1,148			590			442			43		
Mar.	1,212			632			575			52		
Apr.	978			517			477			43		
May	1,045			552			522			52		
June	1,059			564			486			53		
July	1,049			543			482			58		
Aug.	1,292			627			603			80		
Sept.	1,357			661			666			93		
Oct.	1,583			746			877			123		
Nov.	1,407			649			783			102		
Dec.	1,117			536			548			64		
Year	14,531	6,244	20,775	7,236	2,700	9,936	7,020	5,884	12,904	823	729	1,552
1946												
Jan.	1,011	753	1,764	515	341	856	440	515	955	42	58	100
Feb.	1,014	638	1,652	533	294	827	427	446	873	37	48	85
Mar.	902	668	1,570	487	309	796	484	519	1,003	38	54	92
Apr.	714	718	1,432	394	340	734	445	509	954	37	54	91
May	676	492	1,168	373	232	605	402	409	811	37	46	83
June	450	459	909	245	216	461	306	378	684	31	47	78
July	1,238	767	2,005	605	349	954	542	530	1,072	69	71	140
Aug.	1,239	638	1,877	594	277	871	534	479	1,013	70	68	138
Sept.	358	465	823	167	199	366	364	398	762	43	55	98
Oct.	1,102	791	1,893	503	337	840	650	553	1,203	87	80	167
Nov.	1,347	579	1,926	605	239	844	656	438	1,094	84	57	141
Dec.	1,351	511	1,862	640	216	856	591	395	986	65	50	114
Year	11,402	7,479	18,881	5,661	3,349	9,010	5,841	5,569	11,410	642	687	1,329
1947												
Jan.	1,403	552	1,955	693	242	935	591	410	1,001	65	48	113
Feb.	1,143	444	1,587	581	197	778	521	370	891	51	42	93
Mar.	1,228	465	1,693	622	207	829	644	444	1,088	59	45	104
Apr.	1,203	482	1,685	618	213	831	678	465	1,143	62	46	108
May	1,264	464	1,728	642	204	846	626	416	1,042	64	46	110
June	1,207	470	1,677	599	205	804	621	401	1,022	71	47	118
July	1,274	507	1,781	622	217	839	656	436	1,092	81	55	136
Aug.	1,217	469	1,686	571	195	766	628	405	1,033	80	51	131
Sept.	1,407	568	1,975	653	235	888	719	457	1,176	96	58	154
Oct.	1,497	586	2,083	686	238	924	813	459	1,272	107	56	163
Nov.	1,337	500	1,837	612	201	813	762	410	1,172	95	50	145
Dec.	1,346	500	1,846	636	207	843	673	406	1,079	73	45	118
Year	15,524	6,009	21,533	7,535	2,561	10,096	7,933	5,080	13,013	904	589	1,493
1948												
Jan.	1,312	524	1,836	637	225	862	586	402	988	61	45	106
Feb.	977	400	1,377	493	174	667	511	373	884	49	38	87
Mar.	986	501	1,487	513	222	735	566	504	1,070	50	49	99
Apr.	899	523	1,422	475	234	709	550	502	1,052	52	52	104
May	877	468	1,345	450	208	658	509	417	926	53	45	98
June	1,109	463	1,572	545	196	741	620	424	1,044	71	48	119
July	1,046	440	1,486	505	185	690	577	374	951	72	45	117
Aug.	1,086	454	1,540	524	190	714	569	373	942	76	45	121
Sept.	1,178	511	1,689	570	214	784	599	394	993	80	47	127
Oct.	1,176	481	1,657	558	201	759	633	376	1,009	82	44	126
Nov.	1,151	473	1,624	558	198	756	614	364	978	78	42	120
Dec.	1,197	444	1,641	605	189	794	573	348	921	67	39	106
Year	12,994	5,682	18,676	6,433	2,436	8,869	6,907	4,851	11,758	791	539	1,330
1949												
Jan.	1,126	443	1,569	596	197	793	484	349	833	54	38	92
Feb.	994	380	1,374	536	172	708	476	335	811	47	36	83
Mar.	1,102	440	1,542	607	200	807	619	420	1,039	57	41	98
Apr.	996	387	1,383	553	177	730	562	369	931	53	38	91
May	1,025	408	1,433	571	185	756	510	357	867	53	39	92
June	1,095	420	1,515	585	188	773	533	368	901	60	44	104
July	1,091	398	1,489	576	175	751	501	331	832	63	39	102
Aug.	1,232	461	1,693	642	201	843	549	376	925	74	48	122
Sept.	1,224	473	1,697	625	205	830	552	377	929	74	47	121
Oct.	1,157	438	1,595	585	191	776	568	369	937	75	44	119
Nov.	1,116	434	1,550	566	190	756	585	379	964	75	44	119
Dec.	1,064	372	1,436	556	163	719	510	327	837	61	36	97
Year	13,222	5,054	18,276	6,998	2,244	9,242	6,449	4,357	10,806	746	494	1,240

Continued -

For footnotes see next page.

Table 10.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1945 to date, continued

Year and month	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Fed. insp.	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Other whole-sale and retail	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Total com-mer-cial	Lamb and mutton production: Fed. insp.	Lamb and mutton production: Other whole-sale and retail	Lamb and mutton production: Total com-mer-cial	Hogs: Slaughter: Fed. insp.	Hogs: Slaughter: Other whole-sale and retail	Hogs: Slaughter: Total com-mer-cial	Pork production excluding lard: Fed. insp.	Pork production excluding lard: Other whole-sale and retail	Pork production excluding lard: Total com-mer-cial	All meat production excluding lard: Fed. insp.	All meat production excluding lard: Other whole-sale and retail	All meat production excluding lard: Total com-mer-cial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1945															
Jan.	2,073			90			5,299			761			1,530		
Feb.	1,622			71			3,267			480			1,184		
Mar.	1,723			76			3,474			524			1,286		
Apr.	1,507			67			3,066			472			1,099		
May	1,824			77			3,375			529			1,210		
June	1,905			77			3,382			545			1,239		
July	1,742			72			2,752			475			1,148		
Aug.	1,567			67			2,206			388			1,162		
Sept.	1,658			71			1,922			332			1,157		
Oct.	2,018			86			2,330			391			1,346		
Nov.	1,772			77			4,349			680			1,507		
Dec.	1,805			80			5,537			810			1,490		
Year	21,218	2,850	24,068	913	117	1,030	40,960	17,300	58,260	6,387	2,456	8,843	15,359	6,002	21,361
1946															
Jan.	1,440	177	1,617	66	8	74	4,911	2,087	6,998	747	306	1,053	1,370	713	2,083
Feb.	2,196	196	2,392	101	8	109	4,698	1,791	6,489	709	258	967	1,379	608	1,987
Mar.	1,978	171	2,149	90	7	97	3,636	1,756	5,392	534	248	782	1,149	618	1,767
Apr.	1,736	184	1,920	76	7	83	3,858	1,900	5,758	573	274	847	1,080	675	1,755
May	1,373	203	1,576	57	8	65	4,149	1,430	5,579	606	206	812	1,073	492	1,565
June	1,665	241	1,906	65	10	75	2,316	991	3,307	360	146	506	701	419	1,120
July	1,738	215	1,953	69	8	77	3,863	1,583	5,446	668	236	904	1,411	664	2,075
Aug.	1,578	175	1,753	65	7	72	2,843	1,257	4,100	426	176	602	1,155	528	1,683
Sept.	1,300	205	1,505	54	9	63	438	363	801	71	53	124	335	316	651
Oct.	2,005	308	2,313	84	12	96	3,114	1,381	4,495	462	201	663	1,137	630	1,767
Nov.	1,529	153	1,682	65	7	71	5,434	1,784	7,218	758	253	1,011	1,512	556	2,068
Dec.	1,346	122	1,468	59	5	64	5,133	1,677	7,214	728	235	963	1,493	506	1,999
Year	19,884	2,350	22,234	850	96	946	44,394	18,000	62,394	6,642	2,592	9,234	13,795	6,724	20,519
1947															
Jan.	1,542	130	1,672	68	4	74	5,844	1,682	7,526	827	229	1,056	1,653	525	2,178
Feb.	1,271	97	1,368	57	5	62	3,897	1,187	5,084	555	154	709	1,244	398	1,642
Mar.	1,237	105	1,342	58	4	62	3,406	914	4,320	485	119	604	1,224	375	1,599
Apr.	1,322	114	1,436	61	4	65	3,616	1,006	4,622	521	135	656	1,262	398	1,660
May	1,355	109	1,464	60	5	65	3,831	895	4,726	561	117	678	1,327	372	1,699
June	1,329	128	1,457	55	5	60	3,653	828	4,481	556	111	667	1,281	368	1,649
July	1,280	139	1,419	53	6	59	3,455	793	4,248	551	110	661	1,307	388	1,695
Aug.	1,253	133	1,386	52	5	57	2,731	699	3,430	438	96	534	1,141	347	1,488
Sept.	1,458	157	1,615	60	6	66	2,948	953	3,901	418	131	549	1,227	430	1,657
Oct.	1,697	163	1,860	70	6	76	3,978	1,157	5,135	540	160	700	1,403	460	1,863
Nov.	1,471	139	1,610	61	5	66	5,501	1,246	6,747	759	173	932	1,528	428	1,956
Dec.	1,451	129	1,580	62	5	67	6,254	1,455	7,709	868	197	1,065	1,639	454	2,093
Year	16,667	1,540	18,207	717	62	779	49,116	12,813	61,929	7,080	1,731	8,811	16,236	4,943	21,179
1948															
Jan.	1,347	121	1,468	60	5	65	5,223	1,393	6,616	746	183	929	1,504	458	1,962
Feb.	1,208	102	1,310	56	4	60	3,746	1,129	4,875	531	149	680	1,129	365	1,494
Mar.	1,175	123	1,298	55	5	60	3,574	1,252	4,826	506	170	676	1,124	446	1,570
Apr.	1,045	140	1,185	47	6	53	3,343	1,155	4,498	473	159	632	1,047	451	1,498
May	978	124	1,102	42	5	47	3,562	1,024	4,586	515	140	655	1,060	398	1,458
June	1,262	149	1,411	52	6	58	4,235	902	5,137	651	125	776	1,319	375	1,694
July	1,195	143	1,338	50	6	56	3,044	724	3,768	478	100	578	1,105	336	1,441
Aug.	1,264	147	1,411	53	6	59	2,440	661	3,101	372	93	465	1,025	334	1,359
Sept.	1,464	158	1,622	62	6	68	2,836	863	3,699	398	119	517	1,110	386	1,496
Oct.	1,632	143	1,775	68	5	73	4,098	986	5,084	559	134	693	1,267	384	1,651
Nov.	1,444	154	1,598	62	6	68	5,425	1,076	6,501	752	149	901	1,450	395	1,845
Dec.	1,329	135	1,464	58	6	64	6,089	1,236	7,325	851	169	1,020	1,581	403	1,984
Year	15,343	1,639	16,982	665	66	731	47,615	12,401	60,016	6,832	1,690	8,522	14,721	4,731	19,452
1949															
Jan.	1,235	108	1,343	55	5	60	5,377	1,195	6,572	762	156	918	1,467	396	1,863
Feb.	1,046	91	1,137	48	3	51	4,080	1,041	5,121	563	134	697	1,194	345	1,539
Mar.	949	80	1,029	43	4	47	4,315	1,064	5,379	594	136	730	1,301	381	1,682
Apr.	676	83	759	31	3	34	3,894	868	4,762	528	113	641	1,165	321	1,496
May	761	94	855	33	4	37	3,721	800	4,521	518	104	622	1,175	332	1,507
June	898	110	1,008	38	4	42	3,745	721	4,466	557	94	651	1,240	330	1,570
July	976	102	1,078	41	4	45	3,165	645	3,809	495	84	579	1,174	303	1,477
Aug.	1,126	121	1,247	48	5	53	3,417	770	4,187	500	100	600	1,265	353	1,618
Sept.	1,180	113	1,293	51	4	55	3,879	870	4,749	518	112	630	1,268	368	1,636
Oct.	1,172	110	1,282	51	5	56	4,959	936	5,895	634	121	755	1,347	359	1,706
Nov.	1,060	104	1,164	48	4	52	6,003	1,102	7,105	801	144	945	1,490	382	1,872
Dec.	1,058	94	1,152	49	4	53	6,477	1,145	7,622	881	144	1,025	1,546	348	1,894
Year	12,137	1,209	13,346	536	49	585	53,032	11,155	64,187	7,352	1,441	8,793	15,632	4,228	19,860

1/ Totals are sums of unrounded numbers. Data for Federal inspection exclude slaughter in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Data for other wholesale and retail slaughter by months are not available prior to 1946, except for slaughter of cattle and calves in 1944 as reported in "Non-federally inspected slaughter reported under War Food Order No. 75, 1944." PMA. USDA, April, 1947.

Table 11.- Average live weight of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months 1945 to date

Year and month	Cattle		Calves		Sheep and lambs		Hogs	
	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1945								
January	940	---	198	---	96	---	244	---
February	968	---	178	---	97	---	246	---
March	972	---	162	---	98	---	251	---
April	972	---	161	---	97	---	257	---
May	966	---	177	---	92	---	264	---
June	970	---	194	---	87	---	276	---
July	955	---	217	---	90	---	297	---
August	923	---	241	---	93	---	304	---
September	935	---	254	---	94	---	295	---
October	923	---	258	---	94	---	277	---
November	924	---	242	---	97	---	263	---
December	950	---	219	---	99	---	255	---
Year	948	---	214	---	94	---	265	---
1946								
January	974	930	176	192	101	100	258	252
February	987	943	156	174	101	100	260	253
March	992	944	140	162	100	99	249	241
April	994	945	145	163	95	95	248	242
May	990	950	160	180	90	90	244	241
June	986	937	177	203	86	86	263	255
July	923	902	232	237	87	87	290	275
August	917	889	239	246	90	89	263	251
September	912	868	213	231	90	90	264	250
October	898	868	246	253	94	93	246	242
November	895	871	240	240	93	93	242	239
December	922	895	204	212	95	94	247	241
Year	943	909	199	210	94	93	255	248
1947								
January	944	915	202	206	96	96	255	248
February	951	922	178	188	99	98	252	244
March	948	919	165	171	101	101	253	245
April	946	915	163	169	100	99	254	247
May	934	906	183	189	95	95	260	253
June	926	900	206	208	87	87	273	265
July	922	893	222	224	88	88	288	278
August	905	877	234	232	90	89	284	272
September	906	875	244	238	89	89	247	242
October	911	878	243	236	92	91	232	230
November	917	883	236	231	92	91	234	232
December	929	896	205	206	94	93	242	239
Year	928	898	209	209	94	93	254	248
1948								
January	940	907	192	197	97	96	254	246
February	957	920	175	179	100	100	255	246
March	966	924	160	165	101	100	250	242
April	972	926	168	175	100	98	245	239
May	955	916	188	190	93	93	253	248
June	936	900	205	205	88	88	273	266
July	925	891	225	220	90	89	281	271
August	929	893	242	233	92	91	271	262
September	931	893	245	233	92	91	243	239
October	926	892	240	230	93	92	234	232
November	946	908	234	226	94	93	241	239
December	963	927	217	212	95	94	250	246
Year	945	908	209	205	94	94	253	247
1949								
January	980	942	202	201	97	96	255	248
February	990	953	180	183	98	97	250	243
March	1,000	958	165	169	99	98	246	240
April	996	957	170	175	97	96	242	237
May	997	956	182	189	93	93	249	244
June	972	937	201	206	88	88	266	259
July	964	928	223	220	90	89	282	272
August	961	922	243	237	92	91	262	254
September	956	920	247	237	91	91	234	231
October	958	921	244	232	93	92	228	226
November	968	932	237	227	95	95	236	233
December	984	947	218	212	98	97	243	239
Year	976	939	209	207	94	94	248	242

Table 12.- Meat and lard produced per head of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months, 1945 to date

Year and month	Beef: Federally inspected	Beef: Total commercial	Veal: Federally inspected	Veal: Total commercial	Lamb and mutton: Federally inspected	Lamb and mutton: Total commercial	Pork: Federally inspected	Pork: Total commercial	Lard: Federally inspected	Lard: Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1945										
January	484.3		108.7		43.7		144.0		29.9	
February	516.0		98.4		44.0		147.5		28.2	
March	524.6		92.4		44.5		151.4		28.9	
April	531.6		91.9		44.5		154.3		30.6	
May	531.2		99.5		42.5		157.1		32.2	
June	534.5		109.5		40.5		161.8		35.0	
July	519.6		121.1		41.7		173.0		38.3	
August	487.6		133.4		42.9		176.4		39.4	
September	489.9		139.6		43.2		173.3		35.6	
October	474.2		140.5		43.1		168.1		29.7	
November	463.9		130.6		43.7		156.6		30.2	
December	482.4		117.7		44.8		146.7		32.7	
Year	500.5		118.0		43.2		156.4		32.1	
1946										
January	511.5	485.3	97.8	104.7	46.0	45.8	152.5	150.5	31.2	
February	527.9	500.6	87.7	97.4	46.1	45.6	151.2	149.0	33.5	
March	542.5	507.0	80.3	91.7	45.4	45.1	147.3	145.0	29.4	
April	554.4	512.6	84.5	95.4	43.8	43.2	148.9	147.1	27.4	
May	554.5	518.0	92.4	102.3	41.8	41.2	146.5	145.5	26.5	
June	548.9	507.2	101.5	114.0	39.0	39.3	156.0	153.0	30.2	
July	491.1	475.8	127.9	130.6	39.8	39.4	173.2	166.0	32.0	
August	481.6	464.0	132.5	136.2	41.4	41.1	150.2	146.8	33.4	
September	469.4	444.7	118.4	128.6	42.0	41.9	163.3	154.8	24.5	
October	458.8	443.7	134.8	138.8	42.3	41.5	148.8	147.5	25.1	
November	451.8	438.2	129.8	128.9	42.5	42.2	139.7	140.1	30.9	
December	476.7	459.7	111.7	115.6	43.8	43.6	142.2	133.5	32.9	
Year	499.1	477.2	110.8	116.5	42.9	42.5	150.0	148.0	30.3	28.0
1947										
January	496.3	478.3	111.6	112.9	44.4	44.3	141.9	140.3	37.8	34.3
February	510.7	490.2	99.6	104.4	45.3	45.3	142.9	139.5	35.7	32.7
March	509.8	489.7	92.9	95.6	46.7	46.2	142.7	139.8	36.4	32.9
April	516.4	493.2	92.3	94.5	46.1	45.3	144.6	141.9	35.6	32.5
May	510.7	489.6	102.2	105.6	44.6	44.4	146.9	143.5	37.7	35.3
June	499.1	479.4	114.4	115.5	41.4	41.2	152.7	148.9	40.3	37.3
July	490.6	471.1	123.2	124.5	41.7	41.6	159.8	155.6	43.0	39.3
August	471.5	454.3	127.5	126.8	41.7	41.1	161.0	155.7	39.7	35.9
September	466.5	449.6	133.9	131.0	41.4	40.9	142.1	140.7	32.0	29.2
October	461.0	443.6	131.9	128.1	41.5	40.9	136.0	136.3	28.1	26.3
November	461.1	442.6	126.0	123.7	41.6	41.0	138.3	138.1	28.2	26.4
December	475.4	456.7	109.9	109.4	42.9	42.4	139.0	138.2	32.7	30.1
Year	488.0	468.9	114.7	114.7	43.2	42.8	144.5	142.3	35.2	32.3
1948										
January	488.5	469.5	104.9	107.3	44.8	44.3	143.0	140.4	36.1	32.8
February	508.1	484.4	96.5	98.4	46.4	45.8	142.2	139.5	37.8	33.6
March	522.6	494.3	90.0	92.5	47.0	46.2	141.9	140.1	35.8	31.5
April	531.4	498.6	95.6	98.9	45.7	44.7	141.9	140.5	32.4	29.3
May	515.8	489.2	105.3	105.8	43.2	42.6	144.9	142.8	34.4	31.6
June	494.3	471.4	113.9	114.0	41.2	41.1	154.1	151.1	39.9	36.8
July	485.7	464.3	125.4	123.0	42.0	41.9	157.4	153.4	40.6	37.2
August	484.9	463.6	133.5	128.5	42.5	41.8	152.9	150.0	37.2	33.9
September	486.0	464.2	134.9	127.9	42.5	41.9	140.4	139.8	30.8	28.4
October	477.1	458.1	130.3	124.9	41.7	41.1	136.5	136.3	29.5	27.7
November	487.4	465.5	126.6	122.7	43.0	42.6	138.9	138.6	32.5	30.9
December	507.6	483.9	118.4	115.1	44.1	43.7	140.1	139.2	37.1	34.5
Year	497.7	474.9	115.2	113.1	43.6	43.0	143.8	142.0	35.4	32.4
1949										
January	531.4	505.4	111.8	110.3	45.1	44.7	142.1	139.7	39.7	36.5
February	541.8	515.3	100.5	102.3	45.6	44.9	138.4	136.1	38.5	35.1
March	553.8	523.3	93.1	94.3	45.6	45.7	137.9	135.7	37.1	34.2
April	557.6	527.8	95.9	97.7	45.7	44.8	135.9	134.6	35.4	33.2
May	559.5	527.6	103.6	106.1	44.3	43.3	139.5	137.6	36.8	34.3
June	536.7	510.2	113.0	115.4	41.9	41.7	149.1	145.8	38.8	36.5
July	530.3	504.4	124.7	122.6	42.2	41.7	156.9	152.0	42.5	39.4
August	523.7	497.9	135.6	131.9	43.1	42.5	146.8	143.3	37.6	34.9
September	512.7	489.1	135.1	130.2	43.0	42.5	133.8	132.7	31.7	30.1
October	508.9	486.5	133.4	127.0	43.5	43.7	128.2	128.1	32.1	30.5
November	509.9	487.7	129.1	123.4	45.4	44.7	133.8	133.0	33.3	31.7
December	525.2	500.7	119.4	115.9	46.5	46.0	136.3	134.5	36.0	34.1
Year	531.8	505.7	116.3	114.7	44.3	43.8	139.0	137.0	36.4	34.0

Table 13.- Average production of pork under Federal inspection per hog slaughtered and per 100 pounds live weight, by months, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 2/
	Per hog slaughtered												
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1930	126.7	125.1	124.4	125.2	125.8	131.0	137.7	135.0	127.3	125.3	125.1	127.8	127.7
1931	132.4	128.3	130.0	128.8	127.1	132.3	139.0	133.2	125.6	120.3	120.4	123.0	127.9
1932	124.9	123.0	123.7	126.3	124.2	122.4	131.8	133.8	131.7	126.4	124.2	123.7	125.9
1933	123.7	123.4	125.2	127.1	125.7	127.8	129.7	131.5	129.7	126.0	124.0	120.9	126.0
1934	122.4	121.4	123.1	122.9	121.7	123.5	129.1	131.3	128.1	124.4	121.1	117.3	123.4
1935	124.1	125.6	127.8	131.0	135.4	139.4	148.0	140.6	140.2	139.5	136.4	137.2	134.5
1936	135.4	129.4	134.2	134.6	131.7	138.9	143.2	140.1	131.1	125.1	123.1	125.9	131.8
1937	128.5	130.2	131.3	131.2	130.9	140.9	145.8	141.9	140.1	138.0	134.8	135.6	134.8
1938	138.0	132.8	132.9	132.8	135.8	145.9	151.6	141.7	128.7	124.6	130.7	134.9	135.3
1939	134.6	132.9	134.1	135.3	135.1	139.7	146.6	138.8	135.2	131.1	130.4	128.4	134.5
1940	130.1	128.7	129.0	129.7	131.1	136.2	141.1	137.3	134.3	131.8	129.4	127.6	131.6
1941	132.8	136.2	135.3	133.7	132.7	139.7	149.1	149.1	140.1	132.7	133.3	135.9	136.8
1942	133.4	134.0	132.0	135.6	138.5	144.1	150.4	154.5	145.6	140.3	144.0	140.8	140.6
1943	146.4	137.5	151.3	150.6	144.3	151.4	157.3	158.0	155.3	139.7	137.1	136.9	147.1
1944	142.1	138.2	135.8	133.4	131.5	133.4	135.7	140.8	143.3	139.3	138.9	139.0	137.3
1945	144.0	147.5	151.4	154.3	157.1	161.8	173.0	176.4	173.3	168.1	156.6	146.7	156.4
1946	152.5	151.2	147.3	148.9	146.5	156.0	173.2	150.2	163.3	148.8	139.7	142.2	150.0
1947	141.9	142.9	142.7	144.6	146.9	152.7	159.8	161.0	142.1	136.0	138.3	139.0	144.5
1948	143.0	142.2	141.9	141.9	144.9	154.1	157.4	152.9	140.4	136.5	138.9	140.1	143.8
1949	142.1	138.4	137.9	135.9	139.5	149.1	156.9	146.8	133.8	128.2	133.8	136.3	139.0
1950	137.9												
	Per 100 pounds live weight												
1930	55.3	54.2	54.0	54.9	54.7	54.7	55.1	55.0	55.2	56.4	56.7	56.4	55.2
1931	56.2	54.8	55.0	54.8	54.1	54.1	54.0	54.1	54.8	54.8	55.6	55.5	54.9
1932	55.3	54.2	54.3	55.2	54.7	52.7	54.1	55.7	55.9	56.1	54.9	54.6	54.8
1933	54.1	54.6	55.0	54.8	54.2	54.0	53.6	54.2	54.7	55.1	55.7	55.0	54.6
1934	54.4	54.8	55.3	54.8	54.8	54.5	55.5	56.8	56.8	57.6	57.8	57.0	55.7
1935	58.4	58.4	58.4	58.6	59.1	59.2	60.4	59.4	60.0	60.5	60.3	60.1	59.4
1936	59.1	58.2	58.7	58.3	56.9	57.4	58.1	58.1	58.6	58.9	58.3	58.5	58.3
1937	59.1	59.4	59.8	60.3	59.3	59.6	59.4	59.6	60.3	61.2	59.9	59.2	59.8
1938	59.0	58.1	58.4	57.8	57.8	58.1	58.4	57.9	56.4	56.6	58.3	58.5	58.0
1939	57.2	57.7	58.4	58.3	57.3	56.8	57.3	56.4	57.6	57.7	57.2	55.3	57.2
1940	55.8	55.3	55.7	56.2	56.3	56.4	56.6	57.2	58.0	58.6	57.6	56.1	56.6
1941	57.0	57.3	56.8	56.4	55.4	56.4	56.6	57.1	57.2	56.7	57.1	56.8	56.7
1942	55.6	56.6	56.8	57.7	57.6	57.3	56.7	58.1	58.2	58.3	58.9	56.6	57.3
1943	58.0	58.5	59.9	59.3	56.3	58.2	57.4	57.1	59.2	57.6	57.6	56.0	57.8
1944	57.0	56.0	56.0	55.5	55.1	54.5	53.9	55.2	57.8	58.5	58.3	57.9	56.2
1945	59.0	59.9	60.3	60.0	59.4	58.7	58.2	58.0	58.7	60.8	59.6	57.6	59.1
1946	59.0	58.0	59.2	60.2	60.0	59.3	59.8	57.1	61.8	60.4	57.6	57.6	58.9
1947	55.7	56.7	56.3	56.8	56.4	55.9	55.5	56.8	57.5	58.6	59.1	57.4	56.9
1948	56.4	55.8	56.8	58.0	57.2	56.4	56.0	56.5	57.8	58.5	57.5	56.1	56.8
1949	55.7	55.4	56.1	56.3	56.0	56.1	55.7	56.1	57.2	56.3	56.6	56.1	56.1
1950	55.8												

1/Weight of pork excludes head bones and all carcass fat rendered into lard. These averages are smaller than reported dressed weight per hog minus lard per hog.
2/ Weighted by number slaughtered.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table 14.- Average production of lard under Federal inspection per hog slaughtered and per 100 pounds live weight, by months 1930 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 2/
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
						Per hog slaughtered							
1930	35.5	36.7	36.7	35.6	35.6	36.3	38.2	36.2	31.9	29.2	29.7	32.5	34.5
1931	34.8	35.7	36.3	37.1	37.2	38.0	39.6	36.8	33.0	30.9	29.9	32.4	34.8
1932	34.2	35.9	35.6	34.9	35.1	37.7	37.0	34.7	32.6	31.2	34.1	35.8	34.9
1933	37.4	36.3	35.5	36.2	36.6	37.2	38.0	37.3	35.7	32.2	32.0	33.3	35.7
1934	35.1	33.9	32.9	33.2	32.7	33.1	32.3	29.7	26.8	25.0	25.3	26.3	30.5
1935	25.8	25.5	25.9	26.6	27.1	27.0	26.8	24.9	23.8	22.4	24.0	25.8	25.5
1936	28.2	28.8	28.9	30.2	31.3	32.0	30.9	28.6	24.9	23.1	24.1	25.4	27.6
1937	24.7	24.4	24.4	23.6	25.1	24.8	25.8	22.7	20.4	20.9	23.4	26.7	24.0
1938	28.4	28.4	28.3	29.6	30.7	31.1	31.3	29.5	27.5	26.4	26.2	28.8	28.6
1939	31.1	29.8	29.8	29.3	31.0	32.6	33.8	32.6	29.6	28.1	29.0	32.9	30.8
1940	33.4	33.0	32.8	31.5	31.4	31.3	32.4	29.8	26.7	25.7	26.9	30.1	30.4
1941	30.8	31.7	33.4	33.1	34.8	34.8	36.2	35.2	31.7	30.7	31.1	33.1	32.9
1942	35.0	33.1	32.0	30.3	31.3	33.2	35.9	33.2	30.9	28.5	29.0	32.2	32.1
1943	33.0	31.8	29.3	29.8	33.2	33.9	37.0	37.2	33.9	30.3	30.3	34.4	32.9
1944	34.0	35.2	34.8	35.4	36.3	38.1	39.5	37.1	31.7	28.5	29.2	30.4	34.4
1945	29.9	28.2	28.9	30.6	32.2	35.0	38.3	39.4	35.6	29.7	30.2	32.7	32.1
1946	31.2	33.5	29.4	27.4	26.5	30.2	32.0	33.4	24.5	25.1	30.9	32.9	30.3
1947	37.8	35.7	36.4	35.6	37.7	40.3	43.0	39.7	32.0	28.1	28.2	32.7	35.2
1948	36.1	37.8	35.8	32.4	34.4	39.9	40.6	37.2	30.8	29.5	32.5	37.1	35.4
1949	39.7	38.5	37.1	35.4	36.8	38.8	42.5	37.6	31.7	32.1	33.3	36.0	36.4
1950	37.0												
						Per 100 pounds live weight							
1930	15.5	15.9	15.9	15.6	15.5	15.2	15.3	14.8	13.8	13.2	13.5	14.3	14.9
1931	14.8	15.3	15.4	15.8	15.8	15.5	15.4	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.8	14.6	15.0
1932	15.1	15.8	15.6	15.2	15.4	16.2	15.2	14.4	13.8	13.8	15.1	15.8	15.2
1933	16.4	16.0	15.6	15.6	15.8	15.7	15.7	15.4	15.1	14.1	14.4	15.1	15.4
1934	15.6	15.3	14.8	14.8	14.7	14.6	13.9	12.8	11.9	11.6	12.1	12.8	13.8
1935	12.1	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.4	10.9	10.5	10.2	9.7	10.6	11.3	11.2
1936	12.3	12.9	12.7	13.1	13.5	13.2	12.5	11.9	11.1	10.9	11.4	11.8	12.2
1937	11.4	11.1	11.1	10.8	11.4	10.5	10.5	9.6	8.8	9.3	10.4	11.7	10.6
1938	12.2	12.4	12.4	12.9	13.1	12.4	12.0	12.1	12.1	12.0	11.7	12.5	12.3
1939	13.2	12.9	13.0	12.6	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	12.6	12.4	12.7	14.2	13.1
1940	14.3	14.2	14.2	13.6	13.5	13.0	13.0	12.4	11.5	11.4	12.0	13.2	13.1
1941	13.2	13.3	14.0	14.0	14.6	14.0	13.7	13.5	12.9	13.1	13.3	13.8	13.6
1942	14.6	14.0	13.8	12.9	13.0	13.2	13.5	12.5	12.3	11.8	11.9	13.0	13.1
1943	13.1	12.6	11.6	11.7	13.0	13.0	13.5	13.4	12.9	12.4	12.7	14.1	12.9
1944	13.6	14.2	14.4	14.7	15.2	15.6	15.7	14.5	12.8	12.0	12.2	12.7	14.1
1945	12.2	11.4	11.5	11.9	12.2	12.7	12.9	12.9	12.1	10.7	11.5	12.9	12.1
1946	12.1	12.9	11.8	11.1	10.8	11.5	11.1	12.7	9.3	10.2	12.7	13.3	11.9
1947	14.8	14.2	14.4	14.0	14.5	14.7	14.9	14.0	12.9	12.1	12.0	13.5	13.8
1948	14.2	14.8	14.3	13.3	13.6	14.6	14.4	13.8	12.7	12.6	13.5	14.9	14.0
1949	15.5	15.4	15.1	14.7	15.1	14.6	15.1	14.4	13.5	14.1	14.1	14.8	14.7
1950	14.9												

1/ Rendered lard including rendered pork fat. Lard production data beginning January 1937 are quantities rendered in Federally inspected plants, as reported by Meat Inspection Division, Bureau of Animal Industry. Data for earlier years are estimated. 2/ Weighted by number slaughtered.

Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table 15.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1930-48

Year	Live weight of mktgs. 1/ Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	Meat animal mktgs., Index no., 1935-9=100	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/ Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	All meat animals	Gross income 2/ 3/ Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	All meat animals
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1930	14,653	2,206	12,221	---	1,184	162	1,135	2,481	1,204	163	1,369	2,736
1931	14,438	2,505	12,801	---	838	130	774	1,742	854	132	950	1,936
1932	13,960	2,222	12,505	---	621	93	445	1,159	635	95	557	1,287
1933	15,165	2,226	13,282	---	599	105	524	1,228	614	107	631	1,352
1934	20,350	2,555	11,878	---	813	132	520	1,465	828	134	646	1,608
1935	17,037	2,316	7,330	88	1,062	152	682	1,896	1,084	155	890	2,129
1936	18,318	2,314	9,973	104	1,114	166	991	2,271	1,134	168	1,234	2,536
1937	17,051	2,321	9,146	96	1,239	186	925	2,350	1,261	188	1,161	2,610
1938	17,057	2,460	10,638	102	1,162	157	870	2,189	1,184	159	1,065	2,408
1939	17,385	2,431	12,327	110	1,290	172	810	2,272	1,312	174	981	2,467
1940	17,529	2,448	14,837	118	1,376	180	838	2,392	1,400	182	984	2,566
1941	18,628	2,563	13,765	119	1,705	226	1,302	3,233	1,732	229	1,518	3,479
1942	20,472	2,925	16,300	132	2,263	306	2,198	4,767	2,300	309	2,507	5,116
1943	20,866	3,042	20,748	152	2,562	342	2,929	5,833	2,606	346	3,302	6,254
1944	23,117	2,801	20,833	159	2,604	300	2,801	5,705	2,652	304	3,134	6,090
1945	26,839	2,835	15,738	149	3,290	319	2,298	5,907	3,346	323	2,674	6,343
1946	24,964	2,673	16,233	146	3,722	362	2,961	7,045	3,793	366	3,449	7,608
1947	25,902	2,274	16,015	147	4,932	403	4,005	9,340	5,017	408	4,635	10,060
1948	22,823	2,061	15,524	135	5,223	408	3,728	9,359	5,318	413	4,320	10,051

1/ Excludes interfarm sales.
2/ Does not include Government payments.
3/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.
For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, p. 29.

Table 16.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals by classes, and index numbers of prices received for meat animals, United States, by months, 1934 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Wt. av. 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
							Beef cattle						
1934	3.48	3.86	3.97	4.06	4.37	4.26	4.16	3.99	4.55	4.26	4.09	4.13	4.13
1935	5.17	5.93	6.57	6.94	7.10	6.80	6.27	6.18	6.08	5.81	5.67	5.95	6.04
1936	6.11	6.03	6.04	6.29	6.20	5.98	5.60	5.52	5.72	5.58	5.68	6.01	5.82
1937	6.60	6.63	7.02	7.26	7.46	7.48	7.67	7.40	7.36	6.79	6.33	6.15	7.00
1938	6.21	6.02	6.35	6.52	6.50	6.65	7.14	6.70	6.79	6.63	6.62	6.67	6.54
1939	6.97	7.12	7.26	7.35	7.33	7.05	6.91	6.74	7.36	7.25	7.14	7.11	7.14
1940	7.19	7.03	7.16	7.32	7.51	7.28	7.48	7.51	7.77	7.78	7.88	7.84	7.56
1941	8.37	8.31	8.27	8.55	8.51	8.61	8.73	9.04	9.32	9.14	8.82	9.34	8.82
1942	9.72	9.89	10.10	10.50	10.60	10.70	10.70	11.10	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.20	10.70
1943	11.76	12.32	12.76	13.00	12.88	12.70	12.40	12.00	11.70	11.10	10.60	10.90	11.90
1944	11.20	11.60	12.00	12.10	12.00	11.70	10.90	10.30	10.10	9.71	9.79	10.10	10.80
1945	11.00	11.60	12.50	13.10	13.40	13.40	13.00	12.40	11.80	11.50	11.30	11.50	12.10
1946	12.00	12.60	13.10	13.60	13.70	13.80	15.70	15.70	13.80	16.00	16.20	16.50	14.50
1947	16.70	17.00	18.00	18.30	18.80	19.30	19.50	19.00	19.00	18.30	18.20	19.50	18.50
1948	21.30	19.20	21.50	22.50	23.90	24.40	25.20	23.70	23.30	21.20	20.80	20.40	22.20
1949	20.00	18.70	20.50	20.80	20.90	20.90	20.00	19.40	20.00	19.50	19.20	19.00	
1950	19.40	20.40											
							Sheep						
1934	2.72	3.45	3.63	3.61	3.52	3.01	2.79	2.64	2.49	2.56	2.60	2.69	2.85
1935	3.35	3.80	3.84	3.81	3.66	3.60	3.45	3.52	3.74	3.79	3.88	4.18	3.75
1936	4.33	4.28	4.36	4.47	4.31	4.01	3.93	3.70	3.62	3.52	3.59	3.85	3.77
1937	4.25	4.44	4.79	4.95	4.87	4.49	4.50	4.51	4.35	4.27	3.90	3.83	4.52
1938	3.70	3.65	4.03	3.94	3.64	4.43	3.48	3.42	3.38	3.38	3.57	3.70	3.58
1939	3.90	4.09	4.03	4.25	3.98	3.72	3.72	3.61	3.84	3.95	3.85	3.80	3.90
1940	3.95	4.02	4.37	4.27	4.13	3.91	3.69	3.66	3.76	3.82	4.01	4.10	3.95
1941	4.44	4.65	4.86	5.20	4.97	4.69	4.69	5.03	5.36	5.15	5.13	5.24	5.06
1942	5.52	5.71	5.85	6.03	6.03	5.60	5.46	5.52	5.50	5.44	5.48	5.92	5.80
1943	6.39	7.01	7.27	7.35	7.31	7.14	6.84	6.53	6.39	6.08	5.81	5.94	6.57
1944	6.11	6.57	6.80	6.97	6.74	6.59	6.09	5.77	5.52	5.61	5.61	5.83	6.01
1945	6.18	6.56	6.87	7.17	6.99	6.82	6.83	6.39	5.89	5.79	5.86	5.98	6.38
1946	6.34	6.62	6.87	7.01	7.06	7.23	8.14	7.14	7.52	8.43	7.70	7.55	7.48
1947	7.64	7.78	8.43	8.57	8.73	8.36	8.59	8.55	8.64	8.42	8.63	8.62	8.45
1948	9.32	9.31	9.44	9.48	10.50	10.30	10.20	10.20	9.67	9.07	8.93	8.81	9.69
1949	9.17	9.24	10.10	10.80	10.60	9.95	9.33	8.89	8.69	9.12	8.92	9.28	
1950	9.64	10.20											
							Hogs						
1934	2.95	3.86	3.85	3.42	3.06	3.48	3.98	4.68	6.10	5.13	4.98	5.10	4.14
1935	7.05	7.36	8.46	8.17	8.23	8.66	8.72	10.64	10.58	9.71	8.57	8.80	8.65
1936	9.09	9.62	9.44	9.68	8.71	9.10	9.28	10.14	9.84	9.24	8.78	9.19	9.37
1937	9.58	9.38	9.38	9.21	9.62	10.24	10.99	11.77	10.83	9.92	8.26	7.55	9.50
1938	7.66	7.83	8.53	7.85	7.43	8.14	8.71	7.85	8.19	7.25	7.27	6.91	7.74
1939	6.97	7.30	7.14	6.59	6.34	5.91	5.96	5.30	6.88	6.50	5.82	4.97	6.23
1940	5.17	4.96	4.87	4.91	5.37	4.78	5.84	5.90	6.20	5.85	5.61	5.61	5.39
1941	7.47	7.29	7.16	8.16	8.31	9.12	10.32	10.48	11.24	10.13	9.70	10.32	9.09
1942	10.69	11.85	12.51	13.48	13.27	13.38	13.78	14.12	13.57	14.10	13.43	13.26	13.00
1943	14.07	14.63	14.67	14.34	13.89	13.60	13.20	13.70	14.10	14.00	12.90	12.80	13.70
1944	12.80	12.90	12.90	13.00	12.70	12.60	12.70	13.50	13.60	13.80	13.50	13.40	13.10
1945	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.20	14.20	14.00
1946	14.10	14.20	14.20	14.20	14.30	14.30	17.20	20.80	16.10	22.20	23.00	22.80	17.50
1947	21.90	24.30	26.50	23.90	22.20	22.10	22.00	23.60	26.70	27.10	24.30	25.20	24.10
1948	26.60	21.60	21.50	20.30	19.90	22.90	25.20	26.90	27.40	24.70	21.80	20.90	23.10
1949	20.10	19.60	20.00	18.60	17.90	18.30	19.30	17.40	19.90	17.60	15.60	14.80	
1950	15.10	16.60											

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Wt. av. 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
							Veal calves						
1934	4.54	5.07	5.02	4.89	4.92	4.61	4.52	4.62	5.25	5.23	5.01	4.95	4.92
1935	5.92	6.58	7.13	7.34	7.07	7.20	6.86	7.23	7.75	7.74	7.73	7.92	7.16
1936	8.03	8.15	7.42	7.56	7.48	7.43	6.92	6.76	7.16	7.12	6.93	7.45	7.20
1937	8.29	7.93	7.91	7.95	7.85	7.91	8.15	8.50	8.66	8.32	8.04	7.83	8.10
1938	8.16	8.05	8.06	7.91	7.54	7.61	7.79	7.81	8.11	8.07	8.06	7.93	7.90
1939	8.23	8.66	8.64	8.35	8.24	7.98	8.06	8.08	8.81	8.80	8.59	8.40	8.40
1940	8.91	8.77	8.82	8.65	8.93	8.51	8.62	8.61	9.07	9.12	9.11	9.07	8.83
1941	9.71	10.10	9.78	9.86	9.91	9.91	10.23	10.50	11.20	11.06	10.75	11.18	10.30
1942	12.03	11.85	12.08	12.15	12.39	12.31	12.43	12.74	12.80	12.80	12.82	12.94	12.30
1943	13.55	14.11	14.40	14.22	14.26	14.20	13.90	13.60	13.40	13.00	12.40	12.50	13.30
1944	12.70	13.00	13.20	13.10	13.20	13.10	12.70	12.40	12.40	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.40
1945	12.90	13.20	13.50	13.90	13.80	13.80	13.90	13.30	12.90	12.70	12.60	12.60	13.10
1946	13.30	13.70	13.90	14.30	14.40	14.80	16.30	15.90	15.20	16.20	16.70	17.00	15.30
1947	18.00	19.00	19.60	19.60	20.20	20.90	20.80	20.70	21.40	21.00	21.10	21.90	20.40
1948	24.40	22.50	23.10	23.90	25.00	25.20	26.40	26.60	25.50	23.80	23.80	24.10	24.40
1949	25.10	24.30	24.50	24.90	23.80	23.40	22.40	22.10	22.40	21.90	22.00	22.40	
1950	23.30	24.60											
							Lambs						
1934	5.78	6.93	7.16	7.16	7.34	6.77	6.04	5.35	5.12	5.04	5.11	5.30	5.90
1935	6.77	6.98	6.99	6.92	6.95	6.88	6.54	6.71	7.45	7.58	7.87	8.36	7.28
1936	8.53	8.55	8.36	8.69	8.85	8.70	8.21	7.87	7.67	7.50	7.44	7.26	8.05
1937	8.14	8.37	9.21	9.61	9.61	9.32	8.80	8.89	8.83	8.64	8.09	7.69	8.87
1938	7.39	6.77	7.55	7.40	7.10	7.16	7.17	6.87	6.76	6.65	7.06	7.31	7.05
1939	7.58	7.63	7.70	8.18	8.37	7.91	7.64	7.21	7.84	7.86	7.74	7.62	7.70
1940	7.79	7.84	8.31	8.46	8.59	8.47	8.17	7.81	7.82	7.86	8.02	8.09	8.10
1941	8.56	8.80	9.12	9.37	9.34	9.49	9.47	9.56	10.09	9.83	9.70	10.13	9.58
1942	10.56	10.69	10.62	10.85	11.60	11.98	11.81	12.05	11.90	11.83	12.04	12.49	11.74
1943	13.03	13.76	13.97	13.87	13.82	13.50	13.30	12.80	12.50	12.20	11.90	12.10	13.00
1944	12.50	13.20	13.50	13.60	13.40	13.10	12.60	12.20	12.10	12.10	12.10	12.30	12.50
1945	12.90	13.50	13.80	13.90	13.60	13.40	13.40	12.90	12.50	12.50	12.70	12.80	13.10
1946	12.90	13.40	13.70	14.00	14.10	14.30	15.90	16.40	15.70	17.40	18.50	18.70	15.60
1947	19.10	19.60	20.30	19.80	19.90	20.90	20.90	20.90	21.50	20.30	20.80	21.30	20.50
1948	22.20	20.80	20.10	21.20	23.30	24.90	26.10	24.80	23.30	21.90	21.90	21.80	22.80
1949	21.90	21.50	23.60	25.80	25.30	24.40	22.80	21.20	21.60	21.50	21.40	21.00	
1950	21.60	22.80											
	Index numbers of prices received for meat animals (Aug. 1909-July 1914 = 100) 2/												
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1934	54	61	65	63	63	65	66	69	83	74	72	73	68
1935	95	104	116	117	119	119	115	126	126	119	111	115	115
1936	119	122	120	124	117	117	115	119	118	114	111	117	118
1937	125	124	128	130	134	137	143	146	140	129	115	109	130
1938	110	109	116	113	110	115	123	114	117	110	110	109	113
1939	112	116	116	113	112	106	105	100	115	112	107	101	110
1940	104	101	102	104	108	102	110	110	115	113	112	112	108
1941	128	127	126	135	136	141	150	153	161	153	147	156	143
1942	162	171	177	186	186	188	190	196	192	195	191	192	186
1943	203	212	216	216	212	208	203	202	202	196	184	186	203
1944	189	194	198	199	196	193	186	186	185	183	182	184	190
1945	194	201	209	215	217	216	214	210	205	202	202	203	207
1946	208	214	219	223	225	226	258	279	235	292	299	301	248
1947	298	317	339	325	320	324	325	331	351	346	329	346	329
1948	371	329	339	342	354	377	400	396	394	359	338	330	361
1949	323	309	327	324	319	323	316	310	319	301	286	280	311
1950													

1/ Annual State averages weighted by shipments and local slaughter.
2/ Revised January 1950. Includes production payments on beef cattle, sheep and lambs, 1945-46. Year averages are unweighted.

Table 17.- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of cattle and calves, 1930 to date

Year	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Choice and Prime	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Good	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Medium	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Common	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: All grades	Beef steers for slaughter: Omaha, all grades	Beef steers for slaughter: Sioux City, all grades	Cows, Chicago: Good	Cows, Chicago: Common 1/	Cows, Chicago: Canner and Cutter 2/	Vealers, Chicago, Good and Choice
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1930	12.10	11.45	10.39	8.74	10.95	---	---	7.22	---	4.49	11.51
1931	9.13	8.63	7.39	6.01	8.06	---	---	4.78	---	2.96	8.33
1932	8.21	7.23	5.98	4.99	6.70	---	---	3.69	---	2.07	6.21
1933	6.12	5.56	4.91	4.08	5.42	---	---	3.52	---	2.01	5.88
1934	7.84	6.94	5.53	4.29	6.76	---	---	4.12	---	2.05	6.10
1935	12.32	10.79	8.80	6.73	10.26	---	---	6.93	---	3.78	8.88
1936	9.97	8.82	7.85	6.58	8.82	---	---	5.95	---	4.04	9.30
1937	14.79	11.79	9.19	7.51	11.47	---	---	7.42	---	4.54	10.07
1938	10.71	9.14	7.88	6.77	9.39	---	---	6.73	5.54	4.63	9.52
1939	10.48	9.81	8.77	7.51	9.75	---	---	7.10	5.70	4.95	10.07
1940	11.86	10.48	8.84	7.51	10.43	---	---	7.22	5.42	4.90	10.61
1941	12.23	11.36	10.02	8.64	11.33	---	---	8.44	6.51	5.95	12.18
1942	15.19	13.90	12.22	10.40	13.79	---	---	10.90	8.35	7.60	14.48
1943	16.23	15.34	14.01	11.66	15.30	---	---	12.98	9.51	8.52	15.18
1944	17.05	15.73	13.87	11.25	15.44	---	---	13.21	8.68	7.54	14.86
1945	17.30	16.00	14.12	11.73	16.18	---	---	14.01	9.71	8.51	15.12
1946	20.24	19.32	17.36	13.75	19.16	---	---	15.04	10.52	9.36	16.87
1947	30.64	26.22	21.76	18.04	25.83	---	---	18.48	12.93	11.82	24.98
1948	35.24	30.96	26.31	22.16	30.88	---	---	23.18	18.01	16.58	29.02
1949	28.65	26.07	23.17	19.77	25.80	24.23	24.41	18.79	15.41	14.38	27.64

1/ From July 1939 through 1949, Cutter and Common.
2/ From July 1939 through 1949, average of prices for Cutter and Common and for Canner.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table 18.- Market price per 100 pounds of hogs and sheep, by selected classes, 1930 to date

Year	Barrows and gilts, Chicago: 160-180 pounds	180-200 pounds	200-220 pounds	220-250 pounds	250-290 pounds	290-350 pounds	All weights	Barrows and gilts, 7 markets 1/	Sows, Chicago	Lambs: Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago 2/	Lambs: Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha 3/	Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1930	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.91	8.06	3.34
1931	6.64	6.68	6.65	6.51	6.29	5.99	---	---	5.26	7.77	6.01	3.00
1932	4.05	4.11	4.08	4.00	3.88	3.71	---	---	3.25	6.11	4.81	2.55
1933	4.08	4.18	4.20	4.16	4.05	3.88	---	---	3.17	6.63	5.68	2.57
1934	4.71	4.93	5.05	5.09	5.07	4.99	---	---	4.06	7.89	6.43	3.15
1935	9.55	9.70	9.78	9.78	9.67	9.50	---	---	8.34	8.85	7.69	4.04
1936	10.12	10.27	10.35	10.34	10.19	9.96	---	---	8.70	9.86	8.22	4.20
1937	10.54	10.65	10.70	10.67	10.54	10.35	---	---	9.98	10.59	9.10	4.68
1938	8.54	8.62	8.64	8.56	8.36	8.11	8.27	8.13	7.34	8.39	7.39	3.82
1939	6.94	7.06	7.08	4/7.04	4/6.88	4/6.62	6.81	6.62	5.67	9.26	8.21	4.03
				220-240 pounds	240-270 pounds	270-300 pounds						
1940	5.71	5.95	6.03	6.03	5.93	5.78	5.80	5.62	5.31	9.65	8.53	4.18
1941	9.59	9.79	9.85	9.84	9.73	9.59	9.47	9.39	9.34	11.19	10.27	5.43
1942	13.63	13.90	13.99	13.99	13.95	13.90	13.69	13.54	13.73	13.81	12.02	6.60
1943	14.17	14.49	14.66	14.66	14.62	14.56	14.49	14.20	13.71	14.95	13.22	7.44
1944	13.57	13.98	14.14	14.14	13.94	13.70	13.77	13.53	12.75	15.22	12.70	6.89
1945	14.74	14.76	14.76	14.76	14.76	14.76	14.75	14.56	13.99	15.48	14.17	7.69
1946	17.68	17.93	17.97	17.96	17.94	17.88	18.42	17.85	18.31	18.65	16.46	8.25
1947	25.75	26.23	26.32	26.24	25.91	25.29	25.21	25.16	21.88	23.59	20.76	9.17
1948	25.14	25.55	25.61	25.40	24.77	23.87	23.27	23.35	22.58	25.96	22.36	11.59
1949	19.50	19.88	19.94	19.77	19.41	18.87	18.62	18.60	16.67	25.45	23.06	10.83

1/ Chicago, St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul. 2/ Average of prices by months for market classes as reported in each month. Beginning 1932 reported classes change seasonally, comprising shorn lambs in about May, spring lambs in about June-September, and wooled lambs in all other months. 3/ Average prices for the months available. In some years, no prices are quoted for one to three months of few feeder shipments. 4/ Average of prices in January-June for market class of earlier years, and in July-December for class of later years.

Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table 19.- Average price per 100 pounds of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City and Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago, by months 1930 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 1/
	Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City												
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
1930	10.54	10.89	10.89	10.39	9.84	7.78	6.30	6.57	6.88	7.06	7.23	7.44	8.17
1931	7.58	7.04	7.56	6.89	6.62	5.82	5.01	5.69	5.04	5.05	5.48	4.65	5.89
1932	5.06	5.04	5.62	5.29	4.93	4.54	4.97	5.23	4.82	4.47	4.72	4.12	4.88
1933	4.45	4.37	4.56	4.79	5.28	4.68	4.33	4.20	4.06	3.68	3.51	3.57	4.14
1934	4.00	4.55	4.55	4.69	4.75	4.08	3.71	3.76	4.05	3.92	3.98	4.07	4.07
1935	5.92	6.86	7.28	7.48	7.69	6.88	6.32	6.91	7.06	6.88	6.52	6.83	6.88
1936	7.07	6.95	7.51	7.23	7.12	6.56	5.34	5.53	5.81	6.01	6.32	6.46	6.39
1937	7.26	7.32	7.84	7.67	7.86	7.87	8.28	8.58	8.09	7.58	7.14	6.71	7.72
1938	6.98	7.04	7.60	7.55	7.72	7.51	7.80	7.54	7.42	7.47	7.77	8.00	7.54
1939	8.52	8.79	9.18	9.21	8.89	7.94	7.61	7.43	8.02	8.04	7.95	7.96	8.09
1940	8.07	8.12	8.97	9.06	9.18	8.05	8.09	8.53	8.41	8.52	8.81	8.76	8.53
1941	10.16	10.00	10.29	10.33	10.06	9.90	9.59	9.79	9.98	9.53	9.35	10.46	9.93
1942	10.57	10.69	11.47	11.93	12.00	11.83	11.09	12.05	11.64	11.83	12.62	12.24	11.75
1943	12.67	13.48	14.49	14.58	14.60	14.38	12.48	12.17	11.81	11.36	10.97	11.29	12.35
1944	11.60	12.95	13.06	12.76	12.84	11.65	10.93	11.50	11.34	11.50	11.96	11.49	11.78
1945	12.40	13.00	13.60	13.90	14.23	13.73	13.54	13.08	12.25	12.62	13.19	13.41	13.07
1946	13.56	14.71	15.22	15.86	15.82	15.72	15.53	15.51	15.99	16.42	16.30	17.63	15.87
1947	17.68	18.96	20.13	19.91	21.33	21.11	21.91	21.22	21.65	20.96	21.32	23.59	20.81
1948	26.31	24.15	25.57	26.62	27.60	26.96	28.25	27.40	25.42	24.41	24.52	23.26	25.54
1949	22.15	21.25	24.37	23.66	24.02	22.53	20.62	20.06	19.74	20.57	21.45	21.44	21.34
1950	22.94												
	Good grade beef steers, for slaughter, Chicago												
1930	13.23	13.49	13.29	12.70	12.06	11.08	9.81	9.76	10.89	10.70	10.85	10.91	11.45
1931	10.72	9.42	9.26	8.36	7.51	7.48	7.60	8.81	8.66	8.95	9.56	8.52	8.63
1932	7.99	7.47	7.06	7.11	6.44	7.01	8.13	8.13	8.21	7.21	6.56	5.56	7.23
1933	4.97	4.99	5.28	5.15	5.94	5.95	6.03	5.98	5.89	5.56	5.11	5.06	5.56
1934	5.20	5.37	5.97	6.62	6.95	7.31	7.12	7.39	8.20	7.52	7.50	8.04	6.94
1935	9.90	11.11	11.43	11.91	11.54	10.57	10.04	10.71	10.70	10.81	10.55	10.62	10.79
1936	10.28	9.47	9.31	8.83	8.07	7.80	8.16	8.41	8.86	9.10	9.95	10.38	8.82
1937	10.88	10.90	11.51	11.15	11.46	11.96	13.83	13.97	13.88	13.39	11.42	9.69	11.79
1938	8.29	7.91	8.49	8.49	8.69	9.15	9.98	9.69	10.03	10.01	9.99	10.16	9.14
1939	10.35	10.23	10.64	10.33	9.92	9.29	9.26	9.03	10.20	9.68	9.52	9.44	9.81
1940	9.44	9.53	9.86	10.01	9.92	9.57	10.29	10.82	11.15	11.72	11.73	11.86	10.48
1941	12.21	11.64	11.12	11.07	10.54	10.74	11.11	11.58	11.56	11.36	11.24	12.41	11.36
1942	12.54	12.47	13.03	13.83	13.65	13.12	13.75	14.87	14.63	15.07	15.40	14.90	13.90
1943	15.05	15.53	15.92	15.91	15.59	15.50	15.06	15.29	15.27	14.92	14.98	14.89	15.34
1944	15.00	15.12	15.23	15.33	15.73	16.23	16.35	16.42	16.26	16.56	16.27	15.62	15.73
1945	15.35	15.42	15.81	16.11	16.16	16.16	16.17	15.98	16.15	16.45	16.56	16.45	16.00
1946	16.51	16.36	16.37	16.46	16.55	16.98	19.86	20.73	19.58	24.97	25.63	25.28	19.32
1947	23.93	23.79	24.05	23.45	24.22	25.72	27.64	28.27	29.43	29.55	29.12	29.62	26.22
1948	30.36	27.10	26.92	28.17	30.91	34.85	36.44	36.02	34.49	32.24	30.68	27.82	30.96
1949	24.72	22.99	24.19	24.37	24.92	26.37	25.96	26.50	28.22	29.63	29.35	29.91	26.07
1950	28.14												

1/ Weighted average.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table 20.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers, parity price, and price received as percentage of parity, meat animals, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Beef cattle			Veal calves			Hogs			Lambs			Sheep		
	Price received by farmers 2/	Parity price 3/	Price received as percentage of parity	Price received by farmers 2/	Parity price 3/	Price received as percentage of parity	Price received by farmers 2/	Parity price 3/	Price received as percentage of parity	Price received by farmers 2/	Parity price 3/	Price received as percentage of parity	Price received by farmers 2/	Parity price 3/	Price received as percentage of parity
	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent
1930	7.87	8.62	91	9.87	10.70	92	8.87	11.60	76	8.28	9.35	89	5.13	7.20	71
1931	5.60	7.59	74	7.05	9.45	75	5.80	10.20	57	5.89	8.23	72	3.31	6.34	52
1932	4.27	6.72	64	5.02	8.37	60	3.39	9.01	38	4.56	7.29	63	2.31	5.62	41
1933	3.73	6.45	58	4.63	8.03	58	3.50	8.65	40	4.99	7.00	71	2.41	5.39	45
1934	4.10	6.94	59	4.89	8.64	57	4.22	9.31	45	6.09	7.53	81	2.98	5.80	51
1935	6.21	6.94	89	7.21	8.64	83	8.75	9.31	94	7.17	7.53	95	3.72	5.80	64
1936	5.90	6.88	86	7.37	8.57	86	9.34	9.23	101	8.14	7.47	109	4.00	5.75	70
1937	7.01	7.15	98	8.11	8.91	91	9.73	9.60	101	8.77	7.76	113	4.43	5.98	74
1938	6.57	6.83	96	7.92	8.50	93	7.60	9.16	85	7.10	7.41	96	3.61	5.71	63
1939	7.13	6.67	107	8.40	8.30	101	6.31	8.94	71	7.77	7.23	107	3.90	5.57	70
1940	7.48	6.72	111	8.85	8.37	106	5.42	9.01	60	8.10	7.29	111	3.97	5.62	71
1941	8.75	7.10	123	10.40	8.84	118	9.14	9.52	96	9.46	7.70	123	4.95	5.93	83
1942	10.60	8.08	131	12.40	10.10	123	13.10	10.80	121	11.50	8.76	131	5.67	6.75	84
1943	12.00	8.67	138	13.60	10.80	126	13.80	11.60	119	13.10	9.41	139	6.67	7.25	92
1944	11.00	9.11	121	12.70	11.30	112	13.10	12.20	107	12.70	9.88	129	6.18	7.61	81
1945	12.20	9.27	132	13.30	11.50	116	14.10	12.40	114	13.20	10.10	131	6.44	7.75	83
1946	14.40	10.40	138	15.10	12.90	117	17.30	13.90	124	15.40	11.20	138	7.30	8.65	84
1947	18.50	12.50	148	20.30	15.50	131	24.20	16.70	145	20.40	13.50	151	8.41	10.40	81
1948	22.40	13.40	167	24.40	16.70	146	23.30	18.00	129	22.70	14.60	155	9.60	11.20	86
1949	19.90	13.10	152	23.30	16.30	143	18.50	17.60	105	22.70	14.20	160	9.51	11.00	86

1/ Parity prices for meat animals through 1949 are computed from the standard formula in effect prior to January 1, 1950. They are not affected by the revisions of January 1950.
2/ Unweighted average of prices, by months.
3/ Based on index of prices paid, interest and taxes as revised January 1950.

Table 21.- Hog-corn price ratio, Chicago and United States, by months, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average 3/
	Chicago, based on prices of barrows and gilts 2/												
1937									11.3	15.6	16.3	14.2	
1938	13.5	14.8	15.9	14.2	14.3	15.5	16.2	16.3	16.9	17.7	16.7	14.3	15.5
1939	14.3	16.3	15.8	14.4	13.3	12.9	13.9	13.8	14.4	14.6	12.2	9.7	13.8
1940	9.2	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.3	7.9	9.7	10.1	10.5	9.9	9.6	10.4	9.4
1941	12.3	12.5	11.7	12.2	12.6	13.4	15.1	15.1	15.5	15.3	14.5	14.2	13.7
1942	14.0	15.4	16.4	17.3	16.5	16.9	16.9	17.5	17.4	19.4	17.3	15.7	16.7
1943	15.4	15.9	15.5	14.7	13.6	13.1	13.0	13.5	14.0	13.8	12.9	11.9	13.9
1944	11.8	11.9	12.1	11.8	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.0	12.5	12.2
1945	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.7	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.6	12.5	12.6
1946	12.7	12.6	12.3	12.3	10.3	9.7	8.4	11.4	8.6	12.7	17.4	17.3	12.1
1947	17.2	18.4	15.8	13.4	12.7	11.1	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.7	10.4	10.2	12.9
1948	10.0	10.0	9.4	8.6	8.8	10.2	13.1	15.2	16.0	17.6	16.6	15.0	12.5
1949	13.8	15.6	15.3	13.6	13.9	15.3	15.3	16.4	15.8	15.7	13 9	11.9	14.7
	United States, based on prices received by farmers for all hogs												
1930	11.4	12.3	13.0	11.8	11.6	11.6	10.9	9.5	10.4	10.8	12.3	11.4	11.4
1931	11.7	11.5	12.0	11.9	11.1	10.4	11.4	12.2	12.4	13.7	11.5	10.4	11.7
1932	10.7	10.5	12.0	11.2	9.4	9.2	14.3	13.4	13.3	14.5	15.2	13.8	12.3
1933	13.6	15.1	15.6	11.3	10.1	9.9	7.2	7.7	8.0	10.8	9.0	6.6	10.4
1934	6.7	8.5	8.2	7.3	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.4	7.9	6.7	6.6	6.0	7.0
1935	8.3	8.7	10.2	9.6	9.7	10.4	10.6	13.2	13.6	13.5	15.2	16.6	11.6
1936	17.0	17.3	16.7	16.9	14.5	14.8	11.6	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.5	13.0
1937	9.5	9.1	8.9	7.7	7.9	8.7	9.3	11.5	11.5	16.8	17.2	15.6	11.1
1938	14.7	15.1	16.6	14.9	14.1	15.6	16.2	16.2	17.1	17.3	18.2	16.0	16.0
1939	15.5	16.6	16.1	14.5	13.1	11.8	12.5	11.6	12.2	13.7	12.4	9.9	13.3
1940	9.7	9.1	8.7	8.4	8.5	7.5	9.3	9.4	10.0	9.8	9.9	10.3	9.2
1941	13.3	13.0	12.5	13.2	12.6	13.4	14.8	15.0	15.9	15.6	15.2	15.4	14.2
1942	14.7	15.5	16.0	16.9	16.3	16.3	16.6	16.9	16.4	18.2	17.7	16.5	16.5
1943	16.0	16.2	15.5	14.3	13.4	12.8	12.2	12.6	12.9	13.1	12.3	11.5	13.6
1944	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.3	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.5	11.7	12.2	12.7	12.6	11.6
1945	12.9	13.2	13.1	13.2	13.1	12.7	12.5	12.4	12.6	12.5	12.8	13.0	12.8
1946	12.8	12.8	12.5	12.2	10.6	10.1	8.6	11.6	9.1	13.5	18.0	18.6	12.5
1947	18.1	19.8	17.7	14.7	14.0	11.9	10.9	10.8	11.1	12.2	11.1	10.6	13.6
1948	10.8	11.2	10.2	9.3	9.2	10.6	12.5	14.1	15.4	17.9	18.0	17.0	13.0
1949	16.1	17.5	16.9	15.2	14.7	15.5	15.4	16.4	17.2	16.1	15.3	13.1	15.8
1950	13.1	14.3											

1/ Number of bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs. Chicago ratio not available before September 1937.
2/ Corn price is of No. 3 Yellow.
3/ Unweighted average of ratios for individual months.

Table 22.- Index numbers of retail and wholesale prices of meat, United States, by months 1935 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	Retail prices (1935-39=100)												
1935	88.4	92.6	98.3	98.8	102.0	103.1	102.5	106.2	107.9	106.4	101.2	101.0	100.7
1936	100.8	97.9	96.2	97.3	96.9	98.7	99.2	100.2	103.0	99.3	96.8	96.4	98.6
1937	99.3	97.8	99.2	102.1	104.3	107.5	114.0	117.8	116.7	112.8	105.5	99.8	106.4
1938	94.9	91.1	94.5	96.8	96.9	99.7	102.9	102.1	102.8	98.7	96.9	96.0	97.8
1939	96.1	96.6	96.7	97.7	97.8	96.7	97.5	95.4	101.9	97.1	94.2	91.1	96.6
1940	89.9	88.5	89.2	90.7	92.4	93.2	96.9	98.2	102.4	98.8	96.6	96.2	94.4
1941	99.8	101.3	101.0	101.7	102.5	105.7	108.1	110.9	115.7	112.6	109.3	109.7	106.5
1942	114.7	115.5	117.7	119.1	123.1	123.7	124.2	125.4	126.2	126.5	126.8	127.6	122.5
1943	128.2	128.9	129.3	129.8	130.2	130.3	120.1	119.1	118.7	119.0	118.4	118.4	124.2
1944	118.3	118.2	118.1	118.0	117.8	117.9	117.9	117.8	117.7	117.6	117.6	117.8	117.9
1945	117.9	117.9	117.9	118.0	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.0	118.0	118.0	118.0
1946	118.0	118.1	118.1	119.4	120.1	120.4	165.6	181.7	181.4	178.4	197.9	190.5	150.8
1947	192.1	191.7	204.1	198.7	200.6	216.1	219.7	229.8	241.9	234.9	223.6	223.2	214.7
1948	233.4	218.0	218.2	229.5	242.0	255.2	263.0	269.3	265.9	254.3	243.1	235.4	243.9
1949	228.2	212.3	222.5	228.5	228.0	239.3	234.4	237.3	242.0	233.1	226.4	220.0	229.3
	Wholesale prices (1926=100)												
1939			82.6			79.5		78.1	89.3			71.7	
1940			71.6			76.5			89.1			83.9	
1941			88.7			95.7			107.8			102.6	
1942			112.4			121.8			123.9			122.5	
1943			125.4			118.9			112.5			112.2	
1944			112.5			112.5			113.0			113.5	
1945			113.7			113.8			113.8			113.8	
1946	113.8	113.8	115.9	116.6	116.6	116.6	184.7	192.7	136.5	178.0	210.6	199.2	147.5
1947	196.2	203.3	213.8	203.9	209.1	216.3	221.4	230.9	245.8	234.4	223.6	230.4	219.4
1948	248.0	230.7	240.6	251.5	262.3	265.1	277.2	279.6	277.4	255.0	240.0	230.8	254.9
1949	222.8	212.5	222.4	224.9	227.0	230.3	227.3	224.4	230.4	219.6	212.9	206.5	221.8

1/ Wholesale meat price indexes are available only as shown.
Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 23.- Chicago wholesale price of steer beef and lamb carcasses and of composite pork products, and United States composite average retail prices for meats, 1930 to date

Year	Chicago wholesale price: Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 lb., per 100 lb.	Chicago wholesale price: Lamb carcass Good, 30-40 lb., per 100 lb.	Chicago wholesale price: Composite hog products, incl. lard: 72.84 lb., fresh products: Value	Chicago wholesale price: Composite hog products, incl. lard: 72.84 lb., fresh products: Per 100 lb.	Chicago wholesale price: Composite hog products, incl. lard: 71.32 lb., fresh & cured products: Value	Chicago wholesale price: Composite hog products, incl. lard: 71.32 lb., fresh & cured products: Per 100 lb.	United States composite average retail price 1/: Beef (Good grade), per lb.	United States composite average retail price 1/: Lamb per pound	United States composite average retail price 1/: Pork, including lard, per pound	United States composite average retail price 1/: All meat products per pound 2/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930	---	19.58	10.88	14.94	13.55	19.00	35.2	33.9	25.2	31.0
1931	---	16.04	7.62	10.46	10.07	14.12	29.2	28.1	20.7	25.7
1932	---	12.99	4.79	6.58	6.55	9.18	24.2	21.7	14.7	20.0
1933	8.79	12.25	5.01	6.88	6.58	9.23	20.9	19.6	13.6	17.7
1934	10.38	14.44	7.72	10.60	9.17	12.86	22.7	23.4	17.4	20.6
1935	15.57	15.86	12.58	17.27	14.32	20.08	29.6	25.9	25.1	27.7
1936	13.21	17.00	11.29	15.50	13.23	18.55	27.8	27.1	23.5	26.3
1937	17.31	17.81	11.60	15.93	13.70	19.21	31.6	28.4	24.2	28.5
1938	14.39	15.74	9.55	13.11	11.50	16.12	27.9	26.4	21.1	25.1
1939	15.46	16.87	8.02	11.01	9.72	13.63	28.6	26.4	18.9	24.4
1940	16.11	16.95	6.84	9.39	8.32	11.67	28.7	26.1	16.5	23.3
1941	17.18	18.41	10.68	14.66	12.12	16.99	30.7	27.8	21.2	26.6
1942	19.98	22.94	14.06	19.30	15.98	22.41	34.1	32.4	26.2	30.9
1943	20.62	24.63	13.42	18.42	15.46	21.68	35.2	35.9	27.2	32.0
1944	19.88	23.68	12.74	17.49	14.69	20.60	33.4	35.1	25.6	30.4
1945	19.88	23.68	13.08	17.96	14.80	20.75	32.7	35.2	25.6	30.0
1946	27.81	31.08	17.92	24.60	20.37	28.56	41.8	42.1	33.4	38.5
1947	41.46	42.66	26.98	37.04	29.58	41.48	61.1	56.7	47.2	55.4
1948	50.03	49.00	26.51	36.39	29.94	41.98	73.7	64.3	47.5	62.0
1949	42.66	49.64	20.96	28.78	24.61	34.51	66.8	67.6	41.1	56.0

1/ For data for 1913-29 see Livestock and Meat Situation, January 1950, pp. 14-15.
2/ Note that this is a composite including lard, and calculated for fixed quantities of each meat in all years. Calculated from "market basket" of meat products.

Table 24.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by years, 1913 to date

Year	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/: Value	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/: Index number, 1935-39=100	Disposable personal income per person 3/: Value	Disposable personal income per person 3/: Index number, 1935-39=100	Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
	Cents	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1913	18.7	23.10	79.4	352	69.0	6.6
1914	19.2	23.10	79.4	344	67.5	6.7
1915	18.5	21.50	73.9	362	71.0	5.9
1916	20.2	24.40	83.8	419	82.2	5.8
1917	26.1	30.20	103.8	497	97.5	6.1
1918	32.2	38.90	133.7	549	107.6	7.1
1919	34.3	40.90	140.5	621	121.8	6.6
1920	33.8	39.50	135.7	645	126.5	6.1
1921	28.0	32.30	111.0	503	98.6	6.4
1922	26.9	31.90	109.6	533	104.5	6.0
1923	26.6	33.90	116.5	606	118.8	5.6
1924	26.7	34.00	116.8	601	117.8	5.7
1925	30.0	36.30	124.7	627	122.9	5.8
1926	31.1	36.90	126.8	641	125.7	5.8
1927	30.5	35.60	122.3	635	124.5	5.6
1928	31.5	36.10	124.1	644	126.3	5.6
1929	32.7	37.30	128.2	673	132.0	5.5
1930	30.8	34.60	118.9	595	116.7	5.8
1931	25.6	29.10	100.0	505	99.0	5.8
1932	19.5	22.30	76.6	381	74.7	5.9
1933	17.5	20.70	71.1	358	70.2	5.8
1934	20.9	25.90	89.0	406	79.6	6.4
1935	28.0	28.20	96.9	453	88.9	6.2
1936	26.7	29.80	102.3	513	100.6	5.8
1937	28.9	31.30	107.5	549	107.7	5.7
1938	25.5	27.90	95.8	501	98.3	5.6
1939	24.6	28.40	97.5	533	104.5	5.3
1940	22.9	28.40	97.6	570	111.8	5.0
1941	26.8	33.30	114.4	686	134.5	4.9
1942 4/	31.4	37.90	130.2	861	168.8	4.4
1943 4/	31.9	40.80	140.2	964	189.0	4.2
1944 4/	30.2	40.70	139.9	1,058	207.5	3.8
1945 4/	30.2	37.90	130.2	1,076	211.0	3.5
1946 4/	38.4	51.40	176.6	1,113	218.2	4.6
1947	56.2	75.40	259.1	1,187	232.7	6.4
1948	62.7	79.50	273.2	1,294	253.7	6.1
1949	56.8	71.20	244.7	1,285	252.1	5.5

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts. Note that this weights the price for each meat in each year by the quantity consumed in that year, and that lard is excluded. 2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each meat consumed per civilian consumer. 3/ Computed from income data of U. S. Dept. of Commerce 1929-49. Estimates for 1913-29 by Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 4/ Data affected by wartime controls.

Table 25.- Commercial exports and imports of meat, product weight, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Commercial exports				Imports for consumption		
	Beef and veal 2/	Lamb and mutton	Pork 3/	Sausage	Beef and veal 2/	Lamb and mutton	Pork 4/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1930	21	2	277	5	64	5/	5
1931	21	1	160	4	22	5/	4
1932	13	5/	116	3	25	5/	6
1933	17	5/	142	4	44	5/	3
1934	22	1	151	4	48	5/	2
1935	13	1	89	3	86	5/	10
1936	14	5/	68	2	94	5/	42
1937	13	1	63	3	95	5/	75
1938	14	5/	96	3	82	5/	52
1939	15	5/	130	3	91	5/	41
1940	17	1	94	3	75	5/	6
1941	28	1	268	78	146	5/	12
1942	21	5	651	395	115	1	1
1943	41	124	1,091	397	114	1	8
1944	28	25	1,131	258	97	5/	5/
1945	94	10	505	92	70	5/	2
1946	425	11	282	60	18	5/	5/
1947	159	7	59	11	34	5/	5/
1948	15	2	29	4	208	3	1
1949	20	1	60	5	158	4	3

1/ Exports and imports of major meat products, in product weight as reported by the Department of Commerce. "Commercial exports" exclude shipments to territories, USDA exports and shipments (1941-49) and, in 1947-49, shipments for military civilian feeding in U. S. occupied areas.
2/ Fresh beef and veal, pickled or cured, and canned beef.
3/ Fresh and canned, and hams, shoulders, bacon, Wiltshire sides, Cumberlands, and pickled pork.
4/ Fresh, pickled, salted and other pork, hams, shoulders and bacon.
Compiled from records of U. S. Department of Commerce.

Table 26.- Exports and shipments to territories and imports of meat, carcass weight equivalent, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Commercial exports and shipments to territories				Imports				
	Beef and veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	All meats	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	All meats
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
1930	59	2	339	400	134	2	1	3	140
1931	58	2	224	284	52	1	2/	4	57
1932	32	1	176	209	63	2/	2/	6	69
1933	39	2	202	243	104	2/	-	3	107
1934	56	2	211	269	118	0	-	2	120
1935	53	2	136	191	201	2/	-	11	212
1936	54	2	118	174	226	2/	-	45	271
1937	51	2	114	167	227	2/	-	80	307
1938	53	2	152	207	200	2/	-	57	257
1939	52	2	192	246	219	2/	2/	45	264
1940	56	2	163	221	168	2/	2/	6	174
1941	56	6	111	173	257	2/	2/	12	269
1942	34	4	66	104	211	1	1	1	214
1943	29	3	38	70	225	1	7	8	235
1944	41	3	54	98	189	1	2/	2/	190
1945	37	5	34	76	127	1	2/	2	130
1946	38	3	75	116	19	1	2/	1	21
1947	192	12	107	311	64	1	2/	2/	65
1948	50	6	82	138	341	5	3	1	350
1949 3/	29	2	104	135	228	7	4	3	242
	Exports and shipments to territories by USDA								
1941	1	--	372	373					
1942	25	7	1,133	1,165					
1943	79	127	2,075	2,281					
1944	91	68	1,660	1,819					
1945	301	24	839	1,164					
1946	645	16	405	1,066					
1947	4	--	25	29					
1948	0	0	0	0					
1949	0	0	4	4					

1/ Carcass weight equivalent of all meat, including the meat content of minor meats and of mixed products. Exports exclude shipments for military civilian feeding in U. S. occupied areas. Shipments to territories include shipments to all territories through 1948, but in 1949 include only shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands.
2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
3/ Exports and shipments for 1949 not strictly comparable (see footnote 1).
Data for 1910-29 may be found in the Livestock and Meat Situation for Feb. 1949, p. 38.

Table 27.- Feed balance sheet, units of livestock production, and animal units fed, feeding year beginning October, 1938-49

Item	Unit	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Supply							
Production	Million ton	96.8	95.8	98.6	105.1	120.8	112.1
Stocks beginning of crop year 1/	do.	14.3	20.7	22.8	23.1	18.5	17.8
Wheat and rye fed	do.	4.7	4.9	2.7	5.6	12.0	9.4
Other grains fed 2/	do.	.1	.2	.3	.3	2.9	6.4
Byproduct feeds for feed	do.	14.8	14.9	16.3	16.7	18.6	18.8
Total supply	do.	130.7	136.5	140.7	150.8	172.8	164.5
Utilization							
Concentrates fed	Million ton	99.4	102.7	108.2	118.7	142.3	138.8
Other uses	do.	10.6	11.1	11.2	13.6	13.3	12.8
Total utilization	do.	110.0	113.8	119.4	132.3	155.6	151.6
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	Million ton	110.0	113.7	117.6	132.3	155.0	152.9
Stocks at end of crop year	do.	20.7	22.8	23.1	18.5	17.8	11.6
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Million	148.5	156.0	156.0	167.3	192.4	193.2
Units of livestock production	do.	144.9	153.4	155.3	170.0	193.5	191.3

Item	Unit	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949 3/
Supply							
Production	Million ton	116.7	114.4	124.3	95.4	138.3	125.8
Stocks beginning of crop year 1/	do.	11.6	14.9	10.9	13.8	7.7	30.0
Wheat and rye fed	do.	8.3	7.9	5.2	5.3	4.6	4.0
Other grains fed 2/	do.	2.5	.2	.1	.1	.6	.4
Byproduct feeds for feed	do.	19.0	17.7	19.4	19.0	19.6	19.5
Total supply	do.	158.1	155.1	159.9	133.6	170.8	179.7
Utilization							
Concentrates fed	Million ton	129.0	133.2	124.9	111.5	124.2	127.7
Other uses	do.	15.2	13.3	19.3	13.6	17.8	17.5
Total utilization	do.	144.2	146.5	144.2	125.1	142.0	145.2
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	Million ton	143.2	144.2	146.1	125.9	140.8	145.7
Stocks at end of crop year	do.	14.9	10.9	13.8	7.7	30.0	34.0
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Million	173.7	167.8	161.4	155.5	161.1	168.3
Units of livestock production	do.	176.4	174.8	169.6	165.0	170.7	176.7

1/ Stocks in all positions of corn October 1, and oats and barley July 1.
2/ Imported grain fed.
3/ Partly forecast.

Table 28.- Index numbers of seasonal variation in prices of meat animals and meat, 1922-41 1/
(Monthly average for calendar year=100)

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Meat animals												
Hogs:												
U.S. farm basis	94.2	98.1	102.2	100.0	98.3	97.8	104.9	107.1	110.0	103.3	94.7	89.4
Chicago:												
Barrows and gilts 2/	94.3	97.3	100.5	98.3	99.1	100.3	105.7	108.0	110.8	101.5	93.1	91.1
Sows 3/	95.7	98.6	103.1	101.0	99.9	99.6	100.7	101.5	107.2	102.2	97.1	93.4
Beef cattle:												
U.S. farm basis	97.5	98.4	101.5	103.5	104.1	102.7	102.2	100.9	100.2	98.2	95.8	95.0
Corn Belt beef steers, Chicago:												
Choice and Prime	103.3	99.1	98.4	96.5	94.2	92.9	98.1	100.3	104.0	105.1	104.4	103.7
Good	100.5	98.2	98.4	96.8	96.6	97.0	100.0	101.6	104.0	104.4	102.3	100.2
Medium	99.9	98.3	99.7	100.0	101.4	101.7	102.0	100.0	100.6	100.1	98.2	98.2
Common	101.3	100.6	105.4	104.9	107.4	103.7	100.8	96.1	94.5	93.8	94.9	96.6
Feeder and stocker steers, Kansas City 4/	102.8	103.6	109.2	108.1	107.0	98.7	95.5	96.0	94.4	94.6	95.6	94.5
Veal calves:												
U.S. farm basis	101.1	103.9	103.1	100.3	98.0	97.3	97.7	98.4	102.9	101.9	98.2	97.2
Sheep:												
U.S. farm basis	100.5	105.5	109.4	110.8	106.2	99.4	96.2	94.6	94.7	93.4	93.8	95.5
Lambs:												
U.S. farm basis	99.1	102.2	105.7	106.4	106.5	104.6	99.7	95.6	95.9	94.5	94.6	95.2
All meat animals 5/	98.2	99.4	101.7	102.0	101.1	100.2	102.0	102.3	103.0	100.4	95.6	94.1
Meat, U.S. av. retail price 6/												
Pork, excluding lard	97.0	96.9	97.6	97.6	98.2	99.2	101.8	103.4	105.8	104.7	101.0	96.8
Beef, Good grade	98.9	98.0	97.5	98.5	99.0	100.4	102.3	102.3	103.5	101.3	99.5	98.8
Lamb	97.8	97.6	98.6	100.9	103.0	105.6	104.8	100.9	101.3	98.1	96.1	95.3
All meats 7/	98.2	97.5	97.4	98.2	99.0	100.4	101.9	102.8	104.3	102.5	99.9	97.9

1/ Average of ratios of actual prices to 12 month moving average centered, adjusted to total 1,200 and to eliminate abnormal fluctuations. 2/ Average all weights above 200 lb. 3/ All weights. 4/ 1925-41 all weights and grades. 5/ Calculated from index numbers of prices received by farmers for meat animals. 6/ Prices reported in USDA Misc. Pub. 576. 7/ Calculated from value of a "market basket" of meat products.

Table 29.- Index numbers of seasonal variation in production and consumption of meat, United States, by quarter-year 1/

Item	1st quarter year	2nd quarter year	3rd quarter year	4th quarter year
Total meat				
Production	108	88	86	118
Consumption	102	95	93	110
Beef				
Production	102	91	99	108
Consumption	101	92	100	107
Veal				
Production	83	83	108	126
Consumption	84	84	108	124
Lamb and mutton				
Production	98	92	100	110
Consumption	101	94	100	105
Pork excluding lard				
Production	116	88	72	124
Consumption	108	96	85	111

1/ Average of ratios of actual data for 1941-47 to 4-quarter moving average centered, adjusted to total 400 and to eliminate abnormal fluctuations. Based on meat production and consumption from all slaughter, including farm, with an approximate allowance for farm storage of pork.

For explanation of data in tables 28 and 29 see Livestock and Meat Situation for December, 1948.

Table 30.- Summary of total meat supply and distribution, United States, by quarter-year, 1948 and 1949

Period	Carcass-weight equivalent: Federally inspected: Supply 1/	Ending stocks	Disappearance 2/: Non-civilian 3/	Civilian	Non-inspected disappearance 4/	Civilian consumption: Total	Per capita 5/
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.
1948							
Jan.- Mar.	4,526	803	128	3,595	1,966	5,561	38.3
Apr.- June	4,287	679	120	3,488	1,771	5,259	36.0
July-Sept.	4,037	326	146	3,565	1,356	4,921	33.6
Oct.- Dec.	4,756	665	206	3,885	1,782	5,667	38.5
Year	15,798	665	600	14,533	6,875	21,408	146.4
1949 6/							
Jan.- Mar.	4,680	743	171	3,766	1,780	5,546	37.5
Apr.- June	4,364	508	146	3,710	1,505	5,215	35.2
July-Sept.	4,297	283	147	3,867	1,307	5,174	34.8
Oct.- Dec.	4,732	631	154	3,947	1,655	5,602	37.4
Year	16,539	631	618	15,290	6,247	21,537	144.9

1/ Production plus imports plus beginning stocks.
2/ Supply minus ending stocks, divided into civilian and non-civilian uses.
3/ Net USDA, Armed Forces, and other war agency purchases from domestic supplies and imports, plus commercial exports and shipments.
4/ Non-inspected wholesale and retail production, and consumption from farm slaughter, considered to be entirely for civilian consumption.
5/ Based on population eating from civilian supplies, including adjustment for under-enumeration of children.
6/ Preliminary.
For data for 1941-47 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, p. 42.

Table 31.- Civilian consumption of meat, total and per capita, by classes, by quarter-year, 1948 and 1949

Year	Beef: Total	Beef: Per capita	Veal: Total	Veal: Per capita	Lamb and mutton: Total	Lamb and mutton: Per capita	Pork, excluding lard: Total	Pork, excluding lard: Per capita	All meat: Total	All meat: Per capita
	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.
1948										
Jan.- Mar.	2,376	16.4	323	2.2	193	1.3	2,669	18.4	5,561	38.3
Apr.- June	2,264	15.5	330	2.3	165	1.1	2,500	17.1	5,259	36.0
July-Sept.	2,270	15.5	368	2.5	184	1.3	2,099	14.3	4,921	33.6
Oct.- Dec.	2,351	16.0	359	2.4	196	1.3	2,761	18.8	5,667	38.5
Total	9,261	63.4	1,380	9.4	738	5.0	10,029	68.6	21,408	146.4
1949										
Jan.- Mar.	2,393	16.2	297	2.0	173	1.2	2,683	18.1	5,546	37.5
Apr.- June	2,384	16.1	304	2.0	123	0.8	2,404	16.3	5,215	35.2
July-Sept.	2,458	16.5	350	2.4	154	1.0	2,212	14.9	5,174	34.8
Oct.- Dec.	2,277	15.2	349	2.3	159	1.1	2,817	18.8	5,602	37.4
Total	9,512	64.0	1,300	8.7	609	4.1	10,116	68.1	21,537	144.9

For data for 1941-47 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, p. 43.

Table 32.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1949

Carcass-weight equivalent

Item	Beef Jan.-Mar.	Beef April-June	Beef July-Sept.	Beef Oct.-Dec.	Beef Year	Veal Jan.-Mar.	Veal April-June	Veal July-Sept.	Veal Oct.-Dec.	Veal Year	Lamb and mutton Jan.-Mar.	Lamb and mutton April-June	Lamb and mutton July-Sept.	Lamb and mutton Oct.-Dec.	Lamb and mutton Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Federally inspected															
Supply															
Beginning stocks	149	127	74	63	149	21	16	7	8	21	26	14	7	7	26
Production	1,739	1,709	1,843	1,707	6,998	158	166	211	211	746	146	102	140	148	536
Imports	52	39	78	59	228	1/	1	2	3	7	1/	1/	1	3	4
Total	1,940	1,875	1,995	1,829	7,375	180	183	220	222	774	172	116	148	158	566
Distribution															
Non-civilian															
Net armed forces	78	50	70	56	254	6	6	9	12	33	3	1	2	4	10
Commercial exports and shipments	5	7	8	7	27	1/	1/	1	1	2	1/	1/	1	1	2
Total	83	57	78	63	281	6	6	10	13	35	3	1	3	5	12
Ending stocks	127	74	63	123	123	16	7	8	16	16	14	7	7	14	14
Civilian residual	1,730	1,744	1,854	1,643	6,971	158	170	202	193	723	155	108	138	139	540
Non-federally inspected															
Civilian consumption 2/	663	640	604	634	2,541	139	134	148	156	577	18	15	16	20	69
Total civilian consumption	2,393	2,384	2,458	2,277	9,512	297	304	350	349	1,300	173	123	154	159	609
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	16.2	16.1	16.5	15.2	64.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.3	8.7	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.1	4.1

Continued --

For footnotes see next page.

Table 32.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1949-continued

Carcass-weight equivalent

Item	Pork excluding lard					All meats				
	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Federally inspected										
Supply										
Beginning stocks	469	586	420	205	469	665	743	508	283	665
Production	1,919	1,603	1,513	2,317	7,352	3,962	3,580	3,707	4,383	15,632
Imports	1/	1/	1	1	3	53	41	82	66	242
Total	2,388	2,190	1,934	2,523	7,824	4,680	4,364	4,297	4,732	16,539
Distribution										
Non-civilian										
Net USDA purchases	---	3/ 4	---	---	4	---	3/ 4	---	---	4
Net armed forces	59	45	27	51	182	146	102	108	123	479
Commercial exports and shipments	20	33	29	22	104	25	40	39	31	135
Total	79	82	56	73	290	171	146	147	154	618
Ending stocks	586	420	205	478	478	743	508	283	631	631
Civilian residual	1,723	1,688	1,673	1,972	7,056	3,766	3,710	3,867	3,947	15,290
Non-federally inspected										
Civilian consumption 2/	960	716	539	845	3,060	1,780	1,505	1,307	1,655	6,247
Total civilian consumption	2,683	2,404	2,212	2,817	10,116	5,546	5,215	5,174	5,602	21,537
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	18.1	16.3	14.9	18.8	68.1	37.5	35.2	34.8	37.4	144.9

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
2/ Preliminary estimate.
3/ Special purchase by USDA for IRO.

Table 33.- Estimated livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter year, 1949

Period and item	Cattle: Number	Cattle: Beef produced: Per head	Cattle: Beef produced: Total	Calves: Number	Calves: Veal produced: Per head	Calves: Veal produced: Total	Sheep and lambs: Number	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton produced: Per head	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton produced: Total	Hogs: Number	Hogs: Pork produced 1/: Per head	Hogs: Pork produced 1/: Total	Total meat produced
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Jan.-March													
Federally inspected	3,222	540	1,739	1,579	100	158	3,229	45	146	13,772	139	1,919	3,962
Other wholesale and retail	1,263	451	569	1,104	104	115	279	43	12	3,300	129	426	1,122
April-June													
Federally inspected	3,116	548	1,709	1,605	103	166	2,335	44	102	11,360	141	1,603	3,580
Other wholesale and retail	1,215	453	550	1,094	111	121	287	38	11	2,389	130	311	993
July-Sept.													
Federally inspected	3,547	520	1,843	1,602	132	211	3,282	43	140	10,461	145	1,513	3,707
Other wholesale and retail	1,332	436	581	1,084	124	134	335	39	13	2,284	130	296	1,024
Oct.-Dec.													
Federally inspected	3,337	512	1,707	1,663	127	211	3,291	45	148	17,439	133	2,317	4,383
Other wholesale and retail	1,244	437	544	1,075	115	124	308	42	13	3,182	128	408	1,089
Year													
Federally inspected	13,222	529	6,998	6,449	116	746	12,137	44	536	53,032	139	7,352	15,632
Other wholesale and retail	5,054	444	2,244	4,357	113	494	1,209	41	49	11,155	129	1,441	4,228
Farm	760	391	297	550	151	83	500	40	20	12,060	134	1,619	2,019
Total	19,036	501	9,539	11,356	116	1,323	13,846	44	605	76,247	137	10,412	21,879

1/ Excludes lard.

Table 34.- Commercial imports of meat, United States, by quarter-year, 1949
Product weight (major products)

Commodity	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Beef and veal					
Fresh and frozen beef	8.6	11.7	20.1	36.2	76.6
Fresh and frozen veal	0.2	1.1	2.2	3.2	6.7
Pickled or cured	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.7	1.6
Canned beef	21.0	13.0	28.0	10.6	72.6
Total	30.4	25.9	50.5	50.7	157.5
Lamb and mutton, fresh and frozen	0.1	0.1	1.0	2.5	3.7
Pork and sausage					
Fresh and frozen	1/	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6
Hams, shoulders, bacon	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.3	2.0
Other, including sausage	0.1	0.1	1/	0.1	0.3
Total	0.2	0.5	0.5	1.7	2.9
	Carcass-weight equivalent (all meat products)				
Beef	52.6	38.7	78.2	58.7	228.2
Veal	0.3	1.1	2.2	3.3	6.9
Lamb and mutton	0.1	0.1	1.0	2.4	3.6
Pork	0.2	0.5	0.6	1.7	3.0
Total	53.2	40.4	82.0	66.1	241.7

1/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

Table 35.- Commercial exports and shipments of meat, United States, by quarter-year, 1949 1/

Product weight

Commodity	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Beef and veal:					
Fresh and frozen	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.5	6.1
Pickled or cured	2.4	2.6	3.8	3.2	12.0
Canned	0.5	1.3	1.7	0.7	4.2
Total	4.2	5.5	7.2	5.4	22.3
Lamb and mutton, fresh and frozen	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.9
Pork and sausage:					
Fresh and frozen	2.8	7.7	5.5	1.8	17.8
Hams and shoulders	3.4	2.3	3.6	3.2	12.5
Bacon	2.9	4.4	3.2	2.0	12.5
Other pork pickled or salted	5.5	12.1	9.9	9.1	36.6
Sausage not canned	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	4.6
Pork canned	1.7	2.4	2.7	2.6	9.4
Sausage canned	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.1	6.9
Total	18.7	31.5	28.0	22.1	100.3
Other canned meat	0.6	2.0	1.9	2.7	7.2
	Carcass-weight equivalent (all meat products)				
Beef	5.0	6.6	8.4	6.7	26.7
Veal	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.7	2.3
Lamb and mutton	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	2.4
Pork	19.4	32.8	29.0	22.8	104.0
Total	25.1	40.5	38.9	30.9	135.4

1/ Product weight includes, carcass equivalent weight excludes, shipments for military civilian feeding. All data include shipments to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Table 36.- Estimated total and civilian population of the United States, after adjustment for underenumeration of children, and population eating out of civilian supplies, by quarter-year, 1948 and 1949

Year and month	Total population	Number of persons in armed forces	Civilian population	Population eating out of civilian supplies
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
1948				
January 1	146.3	1.3	145.0	145.0
February 15	146.6	1.3	145.3	145.3
May 15	147.2	1.3	145.9	145.9
July 1	147.4	1.2	146.2	146.2
August 15	147.8	1.4	146.4	146.4
November 15	148.6	1.5	147.1	147.1
1949				
January 1	148.9	1.5	147.4	147.4
February 15	149.2	1.5	147.7	147.7
May 15	149.8	1.5	148.3	148.3
July 1	150.1	1.5	148.6	148.6
August 15	150.4	1.4	149.0	149.0
November 15	151.2	1.5	149.7	149.7

Estimates compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from several federal agencies. The basic population estimates are from the Bureau of the Census with adjustments for underenumerations of children under 5 years of age in the 1940 Census. Estimates of net strength of the armed forces are based on data supplied by the Bureau of the Budget and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Civilian population estimates computed by subtracting strength of armed forces from total adjusted population. Population eating out of civilian supplies is civilian population adjusted for members of the armed forces eating out of civilian supplies January 1, 1941 through May 1946.

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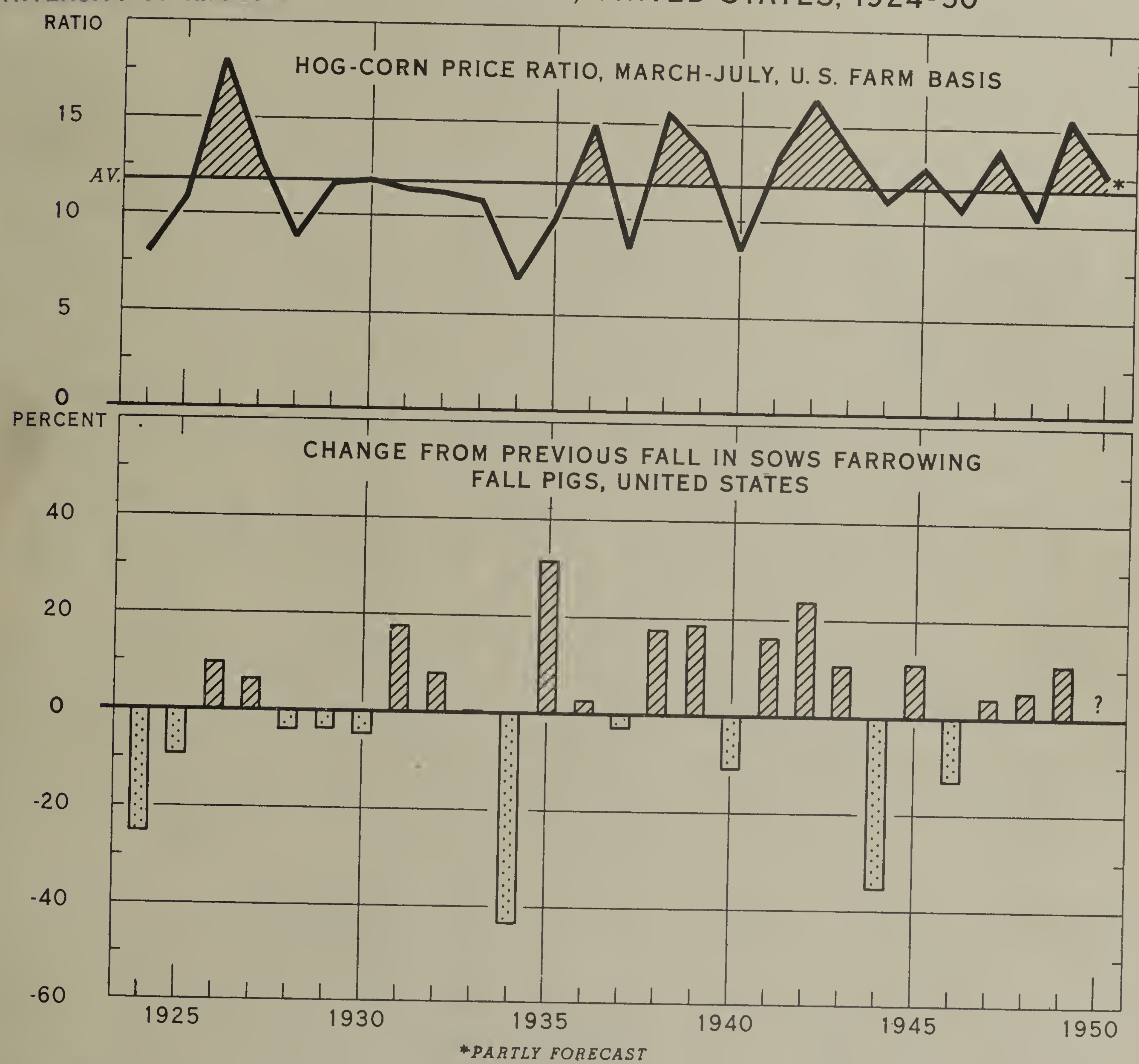
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-37 BAE MARCH 1950

HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FALL SOWS FARROWING, UNITED STATES, 1924-50

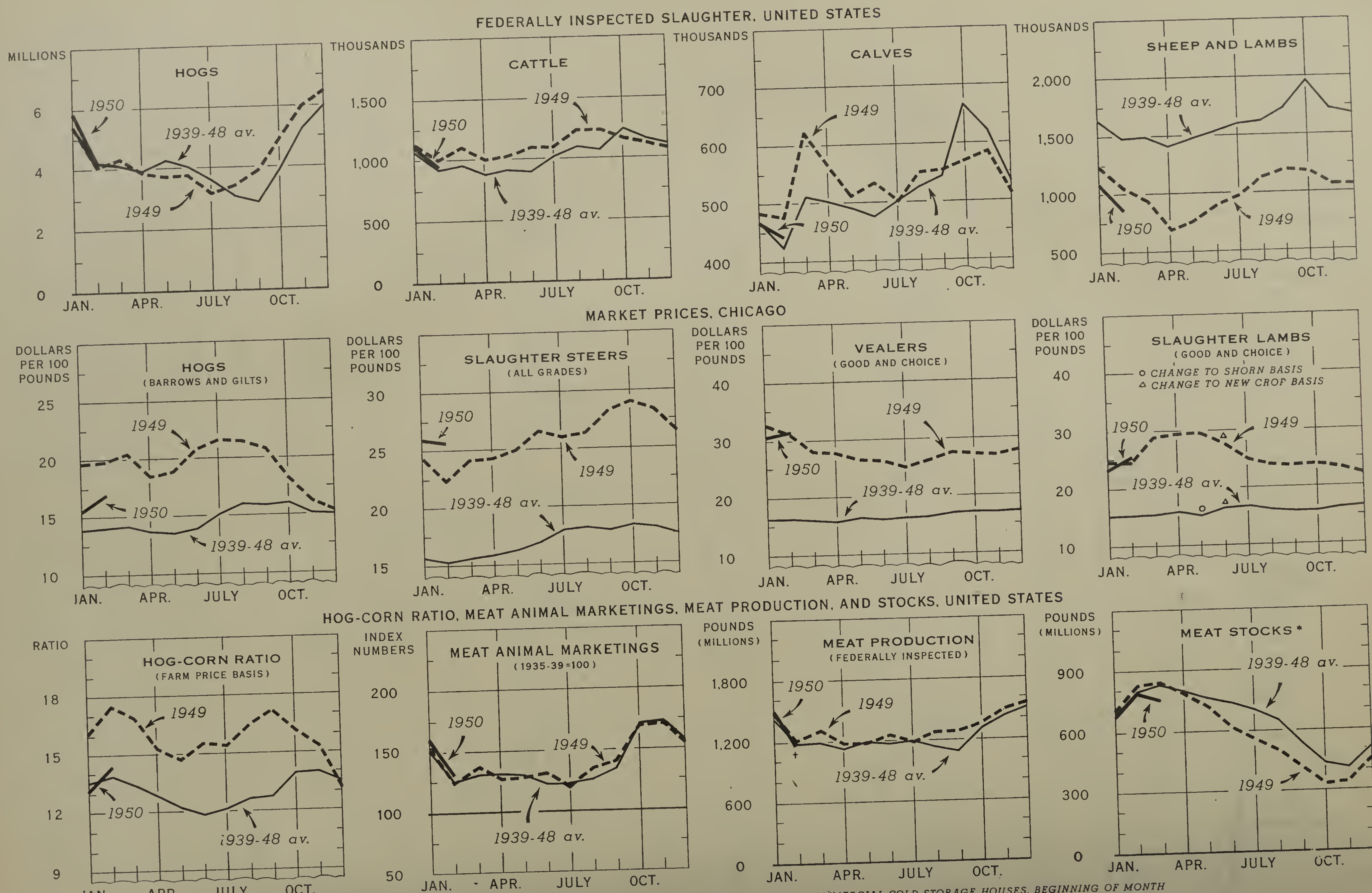


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46732 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The hog-corn price ratio is expected to be lower this spring than last but a little above average. It may be followed by a small increase in the number of sows to farrow fall pigs, which with somewhat lighter slaughter weights would provide about the same supply of pork per person in the spring and summer of 1951 as this year. It would probably result in hog prices only a little lower than this spring if consumers' incomes do not decline.

Intentions of corn producers in March were to plant 82.8 million acres of corn, compared with the 87.9 million acres planted last year. If this intention is carried out and yields are about average, the price of corn is likely to be nearer loan rates next fall than they have been this season. In this case, returns from hogs will be somewhat lower next year than this.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
†ESTIMATED

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, March 22, 1950

SUMMARY

Hog prices at Chicago in March averaged about $4.00 per 100 pounds below March 1949 and more than $10.00 below the high level of March 1947. Prices throughout the spring and early summer are expected to be a little above average in relation to the price of corn, which is less than the loan rate. Based on this slightly favorable hog-corn price ratio and the March report of prospective plantings which indicated that planted acreages of corn will be larger than acreage allotments, a small increase appears likely in the number of sows to farrow fall pigs in 1950. The percentage gain from 1949 is likely to be the smallest in three years. However, lighter slaughter weights of hogs and the growth in United States population probably will keep supplies of pork per person in the spring and summer of 1951 about the same as those this year.

Demand for pork products has weakened in the last two or three years, and prices of all pork products have declined. Prices of fat cuts and lard have fallen most. Although the largest part of the postwar adjustment in demand and prices probably has already occurred, hog prices throughout 1950 are expected to be lower than in 1949. Declines in 1951 may be small. The best indication at present is that prices of hogs at the time the 1950 fall pig crop is marketed will be somewhat lower than this year, the price of corn will be nearer the loan rate and therefore higher than this year, and the hog-corn ratio will be about average. If this outlook proves true, profits from the hog enterprise will no longer have the benefit of the unusually favorable price relationships that have prevailed since July 1948.

As marketings of hogs increased in March, the price declined. The average price at 7 markets held a small margin above the support guide until the week ended March 18, when it fell to 10 cents per 100 pounds below the guide. As 1949 fall pigs come to market in greater numbers in the next month or two, a further decline in prices is likely. Slaughter in April to mid-June will probably be considerably larger than a year earlier.

Prices of stocker and feeder cattle have continued to climb, and in March were up to the 1948 record high for the month. Their relationship to current prices of Good grade slaughter steers is about average. However, the price gain, or feeding margin, on cattle bought as stockers or feeders this March and sold next fall will probably be smaller than in recent years. Prices of slaughter steers in fall months are not expected to be as high this year as last. Peak marketings of fed cattle are expected to be later this year than in 1949, and although a seasonal price advance will probably begin about mid-summer following the present seasonal decline, it is unlikely to carry prices to as high a point as was reached last year.

The early spring lamb crop was 2 percent larger this year than last. The increase, the first in 9 years, represented the higher proportion of ewes lambing before March 1 in the Southeastern States and Missouri. The combined early and late crop in those States is likely to be smaller than last year, because ewe numbers are down. Except in the Pacific Coast States, where cold weather retarded growth of feed and development of lambs, spring lambs were making good progress on March 1.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

1950 Fall Pig Crop Likely to be a Little Larger Than 1949 Crop

The fall pig crop has increased each year since the low point of 1946. In 1948 the increase was 8 percent, and in 1949 it was 10 percent. The 1949 fall crop of 37,262,000 pigs was 22 percent larger than the 1946 crop of 30,548,000. Present prospects are that the fall crop will again increase in 1950, but that the percentage gain will be considerably smaller than it was in 1948 and 1949. 1/

The hog-corn price ratio is currently much lower than it was a year ago, although higher than in the spring of 1948 and a little higher than average. The United States average ratio, based on prices received by farmers, on February 15, 1950 was 14.3. A year earlier it was 17.5; two years earlier, 11.2. The ratio in March to July is expected to average something over 12.0--possibly around 12.5. A ratio of 12.5 would be a little above the long-time average ratio of 11.5 - 12.0 (table 1).

In the past, many producers who planned their breeding program according to hog-corn price relationships at the breeding season for the fall crop would often have profited by giving more attention to the outlook for prices when they would be marketing that crop. 2/ This year more producers are likely to consider prospective trends, not only in prices but in other factors such as the supply of feed. The persistent decline in hog prices the past two years has served as a general warning on prospects for the future. Moreover, the allotment program for corn is a factor not present since early in the war. Finally, possible hog price support programs will be important to the outlook for hog prices in the spring and summer of 1951, when hogs from the 1950 fall pig crop will be marketed.

Barrows and gilts at Chicago sold in February 1950 for an average of $16.85 per 100 pounds, and in the first 3 weeks of March averaged $16.72. The price this March was down about $3.75 per 100 pounds from March 1949, $5.25 from March 1948, and more than $10.00 from March 1947. If the rate

---

1/ Farmers' intentions on June 1 for the number of sows to farrow in the fall will be reported June 21. The first estimate of the fall pig crop will not be released until December 21.
2/ A discussion of current versus prospective prices as guides for hog production was given in this Situation for May 1948.

of decline of the past three years were to continue another year, and if the price of corn were to be held up to the loan price, the hog-corn price ratio in the spring of 1951 would be below average. Based on the analysis that follows, a more likely prospect is that the decline in hog prices will be somewhat smaller in the next year, and that corn prices will be nearer, but not fully up to, the loan rate. The hog-corn ratio in the spring of 1951 thus would be about average, or slightly below it.

Table 1.- Array of hog-corn price ratios during March-July, and corresponding changes in number of sows farrowing fall pigs, 1924-1950

Year	Hog-corn ratio, March-July 1/		Number of sows farrowing in the fall	Increase or decrease from previous year in sows farrowing	
	United States	North Central States		Number	Percent
			1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
1926	18.0	20.3	4,330	391	9.9
1942	16.4	17.6	6,840	1,305	23.6
1949	15.5	16.0	5,726	568	11.0
1938	15.5	17.3	4,517	672	17.5
1936	14.9	16.5	3,957	100	2.6
1947	13.8	14.2	4,907	194	4.1
1939	13.6	15.5	5,352	835	18.5
1943	13.6	14.6	7,565	725	10.6
1941	13.3	14.1	5,535	772	16.2
1945	12.9	14.0	5,426	544	11.1
1927	12.8	13.5	4,609	279	6.4
1950	2/ 12.5	2/ 13.0	---	---	---
1930	11.8	13.2	4,073	-191	-4.5
1929	11.6	12.7	4,264	-165	-3.7
1931	11.4	13.0	4,797	724	17.8
1932	11.2	12.6	5,179	382	8.0
1944	11.1	12.3	4,882	-2,683	-35.5
1933	10.8	12.9	5,207	28	0.5
1925	10.8	11.8	3,939	-405	-9.3
1946	10.8	11.4	4,713	-713	-13.1
1948	10.4	10.4	5,158	251	5.1
1935	10.1	10.8	3,857	921	31.4
1928	8.8	9.4	4,429	-180	-3.9
1940	8.5	9.2	4,763	-589	-11.0
1937	8.5	8.6	3,845	-112	-2.8
1924	8.0	8.9	4,344	-1,448	-25.0
1934	6.9	8.0	2,936	-2,271	-43.6

1/ March-July is regarded as the breeding season for the fall pig crop.
2/ Partly forecast.

This situation would be the opposite of the past 2 years; in every month since July 1948 the ratio has been above average. It would mean that profits from the hog enterprise would depend more on efficiency of each farmer's production, and less on an unusually high price relationship, than has been the case the last two years.

Acreage Allotments On Corn to Affect Hog Production

In the past several years, corn production has not been subject to controls. The price of corn has been supported by loans and purchase agreements based on 90 percent of parity. In both 1948 and 1949, growing conditions were favorable and very large crops were raised. Since November 1948, the farm price of corn has ranged from $1.02 to $1.25 per bushel, 19 to 38 cents less than loan rates. The abundance of corn available at prices lower than loan rates, at a time of strong demand for hogs, was primarily responsible for an increase in hog production and for good returns from the hog enterprise.

This year, for the first time since 1942, corn acreage allotments are in effect in the commercial corn area. Producers in that area will be eligible for price support on corn only if they have complied with allotments. The extent of compliance will have an important bearing on the size of the 1950 corn crop and on the quantity of corn that will be available to livestock producers. It will therefore be a factor governing the size of the 1950 fall pig crop, and the profits to be obtained from it.

If compliance with allotments should be high, a large part of the 1950 corn could be stored under loan provided satisfactory space were available, and prices might approach loan rates. If compliance should be low, loan rates would have less effect on prices.

The March 15 report of farmers' intentions indicated a planted acreage of 82.8 million acres compared with 87.9 million planted last year. Nearly all the reduction was in the Corn Belt, and the percentage reduction was largest in the States where considerable corn is produced for commercial sale. The cut in acreage in the Corn Belt was smaller than is called for by allotments. On March 1, a substantial number of producers apparently were not planning to adhere to allotments.

Corn Production at Average Yields Would be Smaller Than in 1949

If yields per planted acre by States should be the same as the 1944-48 average, 2.8 billion bushels would be produced. If yields should be the same as in 1949, production on the acreage indicated by March intentions would be 3.1 billion bushels. Either figure would be considerable smaller than the 1949 crop of 3.4 billion bushels.

It is likely that less corn will be put under loan or delivered under purchase agreement in the 1950-51 year, than this year partly because fewer farmers will be eligible for loans or purchase. Nevertheless, unless yields per acre are so high as to produce a corn crop about as large or larger than last year, the quantity of corn not put under loan or agreement and therefore available at market prices is likely to be smaller in 1950-51 than in the present year. Another reason for expecting less "free" corn to be available next year is that less will be carried over. The carry-over of free corn next October promises to be considerably smaller than the nearly 400 million bushels of unsealed 1948 corn on farms at the beginning of the present season.

Farmers may depart somewhat from their March intentions, and yields per acre are at this date unpredictable. There can be no more than a very rough indication of prices and supplies of corn next fall. It seems, though, that the hog producer may be justified in expecting corn prices to be somewhat nearer the loan rate next year. If yields are average or better, prices during the fall months of heavy harvest may not be as high as the loan. If yields are poor, prices probably will reach or slightly exceed the loan rate.

More Acres of Feeds Other Than Corn Indicated by Intentions

March 15 intentions point to an 8 percent larger acreage of oats, 24 percent more barley, 24 percent more sorghums for all purposes, 3 percent more hay, and 18 percent more acres in soybeans for beans in 1950 than in 1949. These increases will be planted mainly on land diverted from corn, wheat and cotton. At average yields per acre or better, the supply of feed from these crops would be larger than in 1949 and would offset some of the reduction in corn.

Past Increase in Pork Production Moderate

Even though annual pig crops have increased substantially the last few years, pork production has risen only slowly and pork consumption per person has changed little. The increase in numbers of hogs has been almost entirely offset by a decline in slaughter weights and by the growth in United States population.

The annual pig crop expanded from 83 millions in 1946 to 96 millions in 1949 (table 2). The number of hogs slaughtered in October 1946-September 1947, the marketing period corresponding to the 1946 pig crop year, was 61,265,000; in the current 1949-50 year about 68,000,000 will be slaughtered. Pork consumption per person was 71 pounds in 1946-47, and 69 and 68 pounds in succeeding years. It will probably increase about 2 pounds to 70 pounds in the 12 months October 1949-September 1950.

Table 2.- Pig crops, hog slaughter, and pork production and consumption, for corresponding pig-crop and hog-marketing periods, 1946-50

Year	Pig crop: Spring 1/	Pig crop: Fall 2/	Pig crop: Total	Commercial slaughter and pork production: Period October-September 3/	Number hogs slaughtered	Pork production 4/: Per head	Pork production 4/: Total	Civilian pork consumption: Total	Civilian pork consumption: Per person
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head		1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Pounds
1946	52,392	30,548	82,940	1946-47	61,265	142.8	8,751	10,155	71.2
1947	52,802	31,345	84,147	1947-48	60,697	141.8	8,605	10,040	68.9
1948	51,266	33,921	85,187	1948-49	62,476	139.0	8,682	10,060	68.1
1949	59,039	37,262	96,301	1949-50	5/ 68,000	5/136	5/9,250	5/10,500	5/70
1950	6/62,500								

1/ In 6 months beginning December of preceding year.
2/ In 6 months beginning June.
3/ Approximate marketing period corresponding to December-November pig crop year. Marketings for October 1948-September 1949 included an unusually large number of hogs from the 1949 spring crop.
4/ Excludes lard.
5/ Data for March to September 1950 are forecasted. Estimates rounded.
6/ Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated number of spring pigs. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.

Demand for Pork Weakens in Last Three Years

Declining prices for hogs in the last three years were mainly the response to a declining demand for pork products. Consumers' incomes have been generally steady, but demand for all meat, and especially for pork, has declined relative to those incomes. The retail value of meat consumption in 1947 was 6.4 percent of disposable incomes. In 1949 it was down to 5.6 percent. Of this drop, slightly more than half was accounted for by pork. Demand for other meats has held up better than has that of pork (table 3).

Prices have declined more for fat cuts of pork than for lean. The New York wholesale price of dry salt backs in 3 weeks of March this year was less than half the price three years earlier. Picnics and bacon were 27-30 percent below their March 1947 price. Prices of hams and fresh loins were within 18-20 percent of their March 1947 price (table 4).

Prices of lard have fallen off most of all. The New York wholesale price was only 39 percent as high this March as three years before.

Table 3.- Retail value of meat consumed related to disposable personal income, average 1937-41, 1947-49

Year	Disposable personal income per person	Retail value of meat consumed as a percentage of disposable income: All meat	Beef	Pork, excluding lard
	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Percent
Average 1937-41	568	5.3	2.3	2.4
1947	1,187	6.4	2.9	2.8
1948	1,294	6.1	2.9	2.6
1949	1,274	5.6	2.7	2.3

Disposable income data from U. S. Department of Commerce.

Table 4.- Wholesale price of Western dressed pork cuts, New York and average price received by farmers for hogs, March, 1937-41 average, 1947 and 1950

Cut	Price, per 100 pounds: March 1937-41 average	March 1947	March 1950 1/	Price March 1950 as pct. of: March 1937-41 average	March 1947	Price relative to price of 12-16 lb. loins: March 1937-41 average	March 1947	March 1950
Pork, wholesale, New York City	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Fresh								
Loin, 8-12 pound	17.65	50.52	41.57	236	82	107	104	104
Loin, 12-16 pound	16.56	48.62	39.90	241	82	100	100	100
Boston butt, 4-8 pound	16.54	45.38	35.53	215	78	100	93	89
Spareribs, half	12.55	40.22	2/34.67	276	86	76	83	87
Cured								
Ham, skinned, No. 1, 12-16 pound	3/21.38	60.75	49.48	231	81	129	125	124
Ham, skinned, No. 1, 16-18 pound	21.15	59.69	47.87	226	80	128	123	120
Picnics, 4-8 pound	15.18	45.50	33.37	220	73	92	94	84
Bacon, No. 1, 8-10 pound	22.84	61.00	42.55	186	70	138	125	107
Back, dry salt, 6-20 pound	9.52	29.12	13.70	144	47	57	60	34
Lard, refined 4/	9.69	35.96	14.12	146	39	59	74	35
Hogs								
Price received by farmers	7.42	26.50	5/	---	---	---	---	---

Compiled from Livestock Market News, PMA.

1/ March 1950 price is average for 3 weeks ending March 18. 2/ Price for 3 pounds down. 3/ Price for Regular, 12-14 pound. 4/ Prime steam, in 1-pound cartons. 5/ Not yet available. Probably more than $10.00 below price in March 1947.

To some extent the changes in prices since 1947 are a readjustment from the special conditions of that year, when fats and oils especially were in short supply relative to demand and their prices were exceptionally high. But fat cuts and lard are currently lower in price than lean cuts as judged by prewar relationships. Comparisons may be made by the ratios of prices among various cuts in March 1937-41 and March 1950 (table 3). In March 1937-41, hams and bacon sold at wholesale for 28-38 percent above the price of 12-16 pound loins, picnics were 8 percent lower than loins, and dry salt backs were priced 43 percent under loins. In March 1947 the premium for hams and bacon was down to about 25 percent, but picnics and dry salt backs had changed little in their price relationship with loins. By March 1950, however, the price advantage for hams and bacon had shrunk more, and the discount for picnics had widened to 16 percent and that for dry salt backs to 66 percent.

Of the total price decline for hogs of over $10.00 per 100 pounds the past 3 years, approximately $4.50 to $5.00 may be ascribed to lower prices for lean cuts and bacon, which comprise two-thirds of all products by weight and, in 1947, three-fourths by value; and approximately $4.50 to lower prices for the secondary fat cuts and lard. About 20-30 cents of the total decline represents a smaller return from byproducts, and $1.00 to $1.50 represents an increased charge for all marketing, slaughtering, processing and distributing services.

Beef Supply May Be Larger Next Year

Beginning next year, beef and veal will probably be the chief source of increases in meat supplies. The expansion in cattle numbers that began in 1949 will begin to show up in larger slaughter supplies of cattle and calves sometime in 1951. The rate at which beef and veal output rises is likely to be moderate, at least in the first year or two. Any increase in 1951 is likely to have some influence on demand and price for pork.

Demand May Be Key to Hog Prices in 1950-51

Average slaughter weights of hogs are likely to continue their downward trend. If they do, a moderate increase in the pig crop this year would be absorbed as before without material change in the supply of pork per person, and without any great price depressing effect.

On this basis, demand for pork, the principal cause of a lowering price for hogs from 1947 to 1950, may be of first importance again in 1950-51. If consumers' incomes remain high and demand for pork relative to incomes does not decline much more, prices of hogs in 1951 may be only slightly lower than in 1950. No sharp break in incomes is now foreseen, and inasmuch as the retail value of pork consumption is now down to a prewar average relationship to consumers' incomes, the biggest part of the postwar adjustment in demand for hogs may be approaching an end.

A slightly lower price for hogs and a slightly higher price for corn next year than this would mean that the hog-corn price ratio at the marketing season for 1950 fall pigs would be down to, or possibly just below, the

longtime average level. As one major exception to this appraisal, in the event of poor corn yeilds in 1950 the price of corn next year would be higher than the loan rate and the hog-corn price ratio would be below average.

In a longer outlook, a real problem is production of the type of hog, and quality of pork, that will best satisfy consumer preferences. Scattered reports on consumers' desires and price trends indicate a preference for lean meat. There would be an advantage in producing hogs that not only yield a maximum poundage of so-called lean cuts, but would also produce a minimum fat content in those cuts. Use of more oats, barley, byproduct feeds, and such forage as alfalfa and ladino clover is in the direction of lean meat production, but in a single year and uncoupled with changes in breeding these small shifts in feed will have little noticeable effect on the quality of pork. Over a period of years, breeding programs are a major possibility for a shift to a leaner type of hog.

The fat content of hog carcasses can be reduced by marketing hogs at light weights. The adjustment possible by this method is rather moderate, because the percent yield of fat by weight groups changes only gradually and because farmers have not generally found it profitable to sell hogs at very light weights.

There is a fundamental conflict between preferences of consumers for lean meat and the special adaptation of midwest farm lands to culture of corn, a fat-producing feed.

Hog Slaughter Rises in March, Prices Slip

Hogs from the 1949 fall pig crop began to appear on markets in March, and weekly slaughter increased slowly from its February low. Prices retained a small margin above the 7-market weekly guide to price support until the week ended March 18, when they dropped to 10 cents below the guide.

A seasonal decline is likely in hog prices for at least a month or two. During April and May the supply of hogs is expected to be considerably larger than last year, because the numbers of sows farrowing last August and September were respectively 21 and 16 percent larger than in the same months of 1948. From mid-June through July, supplies of slaughter hogs are likely to be only moderately larger than a year earlier.

Shipments of Stocker and Feeder Cattle Continue Large; Prices Climb Further

Aggressive buying of stocker and feeder cattle is indicated by data on shipments at 5 markets. Combined shipments at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, South St. Paul and Sioux City the 3 weeks ended March 18 were 11 percent larger than a year earlier. Prices have climbed steadily. The average price for stockers and feeders at Kansas City the week ended March 18 was up to $25.25 per 100 pounds from $21.78 the first week in January. Prices this March were about $1.00 higher than last March and nearly equal to the record for the month set in 1948.

Prices of stockers and feeders in March were not especially high in relation to March prices of slaughter steers, but they were approaching a point at which feeding margins might be considerably smaller than in recent years. Only if prices of slaughter cattle should be as high or higher next fall and winter than they were this past season could the favorable margins of the last two years be realized (table 5.) Price trends for Good slaughter steers in 1950 are likely to be considerably different from their almost unbroken 10-month advance last year beginning in February. Supplies of well-finished cattle have been slow to appear on the market this year and the peak in their marketings is likely to come later than in 1949. Although a seasonal rise in prices of fed cattle beginning in mid-summer is expected to follow the seasonal decline that is now in progress, prices in the late summer and fall may be lower than last year.

The demand for stockers and feeders this season is strengthened by the strong demand for cows and heifers for breeding and replacement. This seems to be a characteristic of the expansion in cattle numbers now taking place. Demand for cows and heifers for addition to herds may continue to be a strengthening factor in prices of stocker and feeder cattle in the next year or two as cattle numbers continue upward.

As has been true for a number of months, a higher proportion than a year earlier of the feeder and stocker cattle moving through 5 markets has been of lighter weights. In 3 weeks ending March 16, the number of steers of 501-700 pounds was up from 3 weeks last March by 37 percent, and of calves by 65 percent. The effect on the beef supply of larger numbers of light weight stock going on grass or feed will appear partly in late months of 1950, but will also carry over into much of 1951.

Table 5.- Prices of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City in March compared with prices of Good slaughter steers at Chicago the same month and 7 months later, 1947-50

Year	March price of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City per 100 pounds	Price of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago: March: Price	March: Margin over March price of stockers and feeders	Following October: Price	Following October: Margin over March price of stockers and feeders
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1947	20.13	24.05	3.92	29.55	9.42
1948	25.57	26.92	1.35	32.24	6.67
1949	24.37	24.19	-.18	29.63	5.26
1950	1/25.29	1/27.37	1/2.08	---	---

Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.
1/ Average for 3 weeks ended March 16.

Slightly More Early Spring Lambs This Year

The early lamb crop in the principal producing States is estimated to be 2 percent larger than last year. This increase, the first in 9 years, results from the greater proportion of ewes lambing before March 1 in the Southeastern States and Missouri. In each of those States except Virginia the number of breeding ewes is down from last year, and the total lamb crop for 1950, early and late combined, is expected to be smaller than the 1949 crop. The number of early-crop lambs saved per 100 ewes is about the same as last year.

In general, early lambs were making good progress on March 1. Only in the Pacific Coast States did cold weather retard growth of feed and developments of lambs.

Marketings of early lambs before July 1 are expected to be somewhat larger than last year, when severe winter weather delayed progress of lambs in some Western States. It is likely that a smaller proportion of the early crop will be sold as feeders this year than last.

1949 Wool Price 30-Year High; Wool Production Record Low

Farmers received an average price of 49.3 cents per pound for wool in 1949, one-half cent more than the 1948 average and the highest price since 1919. Production of shorn wool was 216,950,000 pounds, 7 percent less than 1948 production and a record low. Cash receipts of 107 million dollars were 6 percent less than those of the previous year, since the increase in price was not large enough to offset the reduction in quantity produced (table 6).

Production of pulled wool in 1949, also a record low, was down 22 percent from 1948. The large drop reflected the much smaller slaughter of sheep and lambs last year. Producers marketed a smaller percentage of their lamb crop in 1949 than in 1948 and reduced their inventory numbers less than in previous years. There are indications that sheepmen will maintain or increase numbers in 1950.

Table 6.- Production, price and income from wool, United States, 1942-49

Year	Sheep shorn number 1/	Weight per fleece	Production shorn wool	Price per pound	Cash receipts	Pulled wool production
	Thousands	Pounds	1,000 lb.	Cents	1,000 dol.	1,000 lb.
1942	49,287	7.88	388,297	40.1	155,728	66,700
1943	47,892	7.91	378,843	41.7	157,825	65,200
1944	43,165	7.84	338,318	42.4	143,513	73,500
1945	38,763	7.94	307,949	41.9	129,122	70,500
1946	34,718	8.08	280,487	42.3	118,639	61,300
1947	31,241	8.09	252,798	42.0	106,052	56,600
1948	29,060	8.05	233,924	48.8	114,072	46,600
1949	26,972	8.04	216,950	49.3	106,874	36,400

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Feb. Av. 1949	Jan.-Feb. Av. 1950	1949 February	1950 January	1950 February	1950 March
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter							
Chicago, Choice and Prime	Dollars per 100 pounds	27.51	35.75	25.61	36.80	34.70	
Good	do.	23.86	27.66	22.99	28.14	27.19	
Medium	do.	21.45	24.13	20.49	24.13	24.13	
Common	do.	19.44	21.00	18.39	20.44	21.55	
All grades	do.	23.30	25.78	22.25	25.98	25.58	
Omaha, all grades	do.	22.09	24.22	21.34	24.47	23.97	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	21.60	24.30	20.68	24.55	24.06	
Cows, Chicago							
Good	do.	18.34	18.38	17.52	17.50	19.27	
Common	do.	2/16.04	16.04	15.61	15.50	16.59	
Canner and Cutter	do.	15.20	14.16	14.90	13.98	14.34	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	31.83	30.94	31.06	30.66	31.23	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	21.70	23.54	21.25	22.94	24.13	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	19.35	19.90	18.70	19.40	20.40	
Veal calves	do.	24.70	23.95	24.30	23.30	24.60	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	21.23	16.90	20.94	16.51	17.30	
180-200 pounds	do.	21.36	17.05	21.14	16.57	17.53	
200-220 pounds	do.	21.15	16.98	20.94	16.40	17.56	
220-240 pounds	do.	20.59	16.60	20.48	15.94	17.25	
240-270 pounds	do.	19.82	16.06	19.81	15.34	16.78	
270-300 pounds	do.	19.06	15.60	19.04	14.87	16.32	
All weights	do.	19.76	16.20	19.78	15.54	16.85	
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.59	16.20	19.50	15.62	16.78	
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.45	13.55	16.50	12.50	14.60	
Price received by farmers	do.	19.85	15.85	19.60	15.10	16.60	
Hog-corn price ratio 5/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.7	12.5	15.6	12.0	13.0	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	16.8	13.7	17.5	13.1	14.3	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.02	12.63	11.19	12.22	13.04	
Price received by farmers	do.	9.20	9.92	9.24	9.64	10.20	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	24.52	24.26	24.38	23.20	25.32	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	---	24.38	---	23.64	25.12	
Price received by farmers	do.	21.70	22.20	21.50	21.60	22.80	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		316	296	309	286	306	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago							
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	Dollars per 100 pounds	37.90	43.08	36.33	43.90	42.25	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	45.89	6/45.50	44.88	45.50	---	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	22.28	17.93	22.05	17.40	18.46	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.59	24.62	30.27	23.89	25.34	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.52	20.90	25.23	20.34	21.47	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.78	29.30	35.38	28.52	30.10	
Retail, United States average							
Beef, Good grade	Cents per pound	64.4	---	60.3	67.1	---	
Lamb	do.	60.4	---	59.7	62.8	---	
Pork, including lard	do.	41.6	---	40.4	35.7	---	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		217.6	---	212.5	208.3	---	
Retail (1935-39=100)		220.2	---	212.3	217.9	---	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Price for January only.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-February 1949	January-February 1950	1949 February	1950 January	1950 February	1950 March
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		138	144	123	158	122	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States							
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	165	245	72	133	112	
Sheep and lambs	do.	225	227	74	115	112	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	2,120	2,041	994	1,103	939	
Calves	do.	960	908	476	465	443	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,280	1,941	1,046	1,077	863	
Hogs	do.	9,456	10,035	4,080	5,844	4,191	
Percentage sows	Percent	8	---	8	10	---	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	985	2/ 993	990	993	2/ 993	
Calves	do.	191	2/ 189	180	196	2/ 181	
Sheep and lambs	do.	97	2/ 102	98	100	2/ 103	
Hogs	do.	253	2/ 244	250	247	2/ 241	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	537	2/ 539	542	539	2/ 539	
Veal, per head	do.	106	2/ 105	100	109	2/ 101	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	45	2/ 48	46	48	2/ 48	
Pork, per head 3/	do.	140	2/ 137	138	138	2/ 136	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 3/	do.	56	2/ 56	55	56	2/ 56	
Lard, per head	do.	39	2/ 36	38	37	2/ 35	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	2/ 15	15	15	2/ 15	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	1,132	2/ 1,098	536	592	2/ 506	
Veal	do.	101	2/ 95	47	50	2/ 45	
Lamb and mutton	do.	103	2/ 92	48	51	2/ 41	
Pork 3/	do.	1,326	2/ 1,374	563	804	2/ 570	
Lard	do.	369	362	157	215	147	
Total commercial slaughter 4/							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	1,000 head	2,943	---	1,374	1,510	---	
Calves	do.	1,644	---	811	802	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,480	---	1,136	1,169	---	
Hogs	do.	11,692	---	5,121	7,024	---	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	1,501	---	708	778	---	
Veal	do.	175	---	83	87	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	111	---	51	55	---	
Pork 3/	do.	1,615	---	697	954	---	
Lard	do.	420	---	180	244	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	151	121	130	112
Veal	do.	---	---	20	16	13	11
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	22	14	14	13
Pork	do.	---	---	585	474	583	574
Total meat and meat products 5/	do.	---	---	889	725	850	817

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ February estimated from weekly data.
3/ Excludes lard.
4/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
5/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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Fewer Cattle Imported From Canada in 1949 Than in 1948

In 1949, imports of cattle from Canada numbered 433,000 head, 6 percent less than 1948 imports. Considerably fewer breeding and slaughter cattle, but more feeder cattle and calves, were imported from Canada in 1949 than in 1948.

The number of cattle imported from Canada in both 1948 and 1949 was well above the number in prewar years. The peak year before the war was 1937, when 307,000 head came over the Northern border. In those years, however, many feeder and stocker cattle were bought in from Mexico. In 1939, combined imports from Canada and Mexico were 763,000 head. No cattle may enter the United States from Mexico now because of the presence of foot-and-mouth disease in that country.

Imports of cattle from Canada in the first two months of 1950 were much larger than a year earlier, reflecting the high prices for both feeder and slaughter cattle in the United States. However, because cattle numbers in Canada have been reduced steadily, and prices of top grade slaughter cattle in this country are likely to decline, total 1950 imports from Canada may be smaller than the 1949 total.

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THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

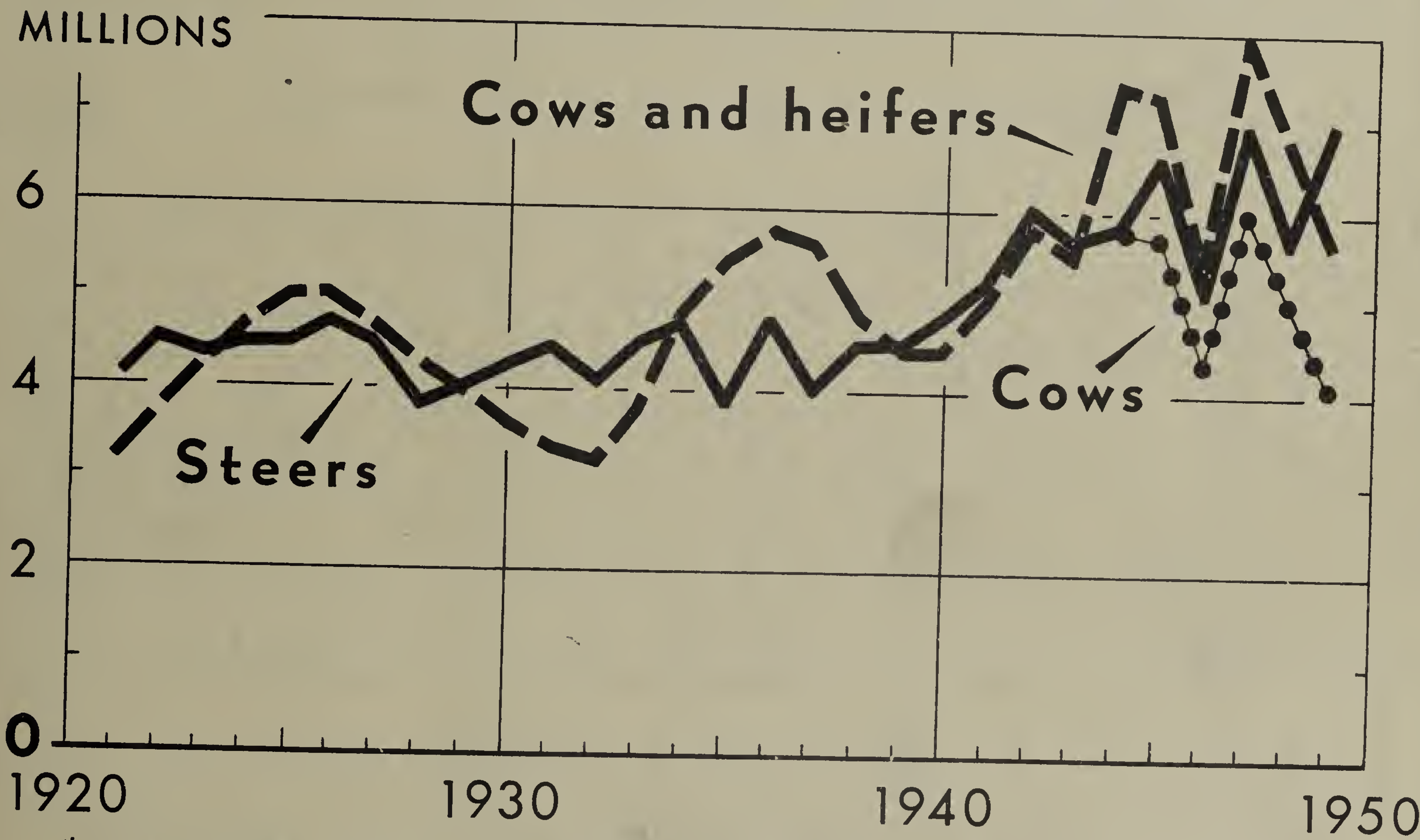
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS- 38

BAE

APRIL 1950

SLAUGHTER OF STEERS, AND OF COWS AND HEIFERS*



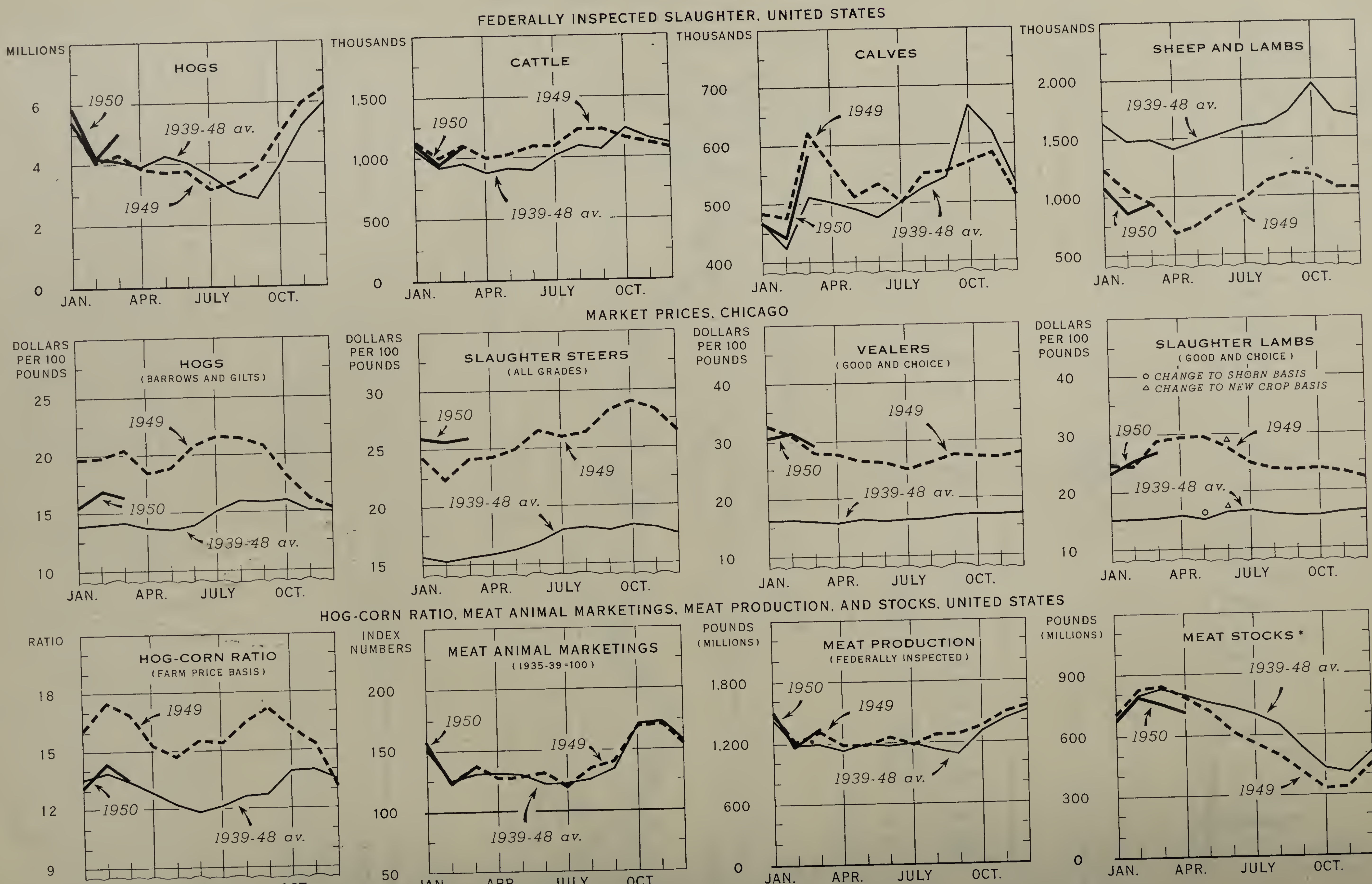
*UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION. EXCLUDES SLAUGHTER FOR GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT, 1934-36

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47629-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The number of steers slaughtered has fluctuated rather sharply from year to year but has traced a rather steady upward trend. Slaughter of cows and heifers has shown smaller year-to-year changes but more pronounced cyclical variations. The number of breeding stock slaughtered each year is significant in cycles of total cattle numbers.

In 1949, slaughter of steers under Federal inspection was up 1.3 million from 1948, and slaughter of cows was down by 1.1 million. To date in 1950, slaughter of both classes has been slightly below the same months of 1949. Steer slaughter in 1950 may not total greatly different from 1949. Cow slaughter may also be about the same as last year, and its rather low level will make possible further increases in cattle numbers in the next few years.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

U. S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 24, 1950

SUMMARY

Marketings of hogs were at or near their seasonal peak in late April. They are expected to decrease in May and June. Prices in April were fairly steady at around $16.00 per 100 pounds for barrows and gilts at Chicago, which was only about $1.00 below the February high. A seasonal advance is likely soon. Prices of barrows and gilts may rise at least as much as usual, since slaughter supplies of that class will not be much larger this summer than last. More sows, however, are likely to be slaughtered this year, since a smaller percentage than last year of the sows farrowing in the spring is likely to be carried over for fall farrowing. Prices of heavy hogs may be discounted fairly sharply.

Hog marketings were unusually large in late March, just before the 1949 price support program ended on March 31. Early marketings of hogs from the 1949 fall pig crop smoothed out somewhat the spring peak movement and moved it forward. It probably minimized the seasonal price decline.

No announcement has been made of a new price support program for hogs.

About 8 percent more cattle and calves were reported on feed in 11 Corn Belt States April 1 this year than in 1949. The increase over a year earlier was greater than that on January 1, reflecting mainly larger feeder placements since January this year. Marketings of well-finished cattle are expected to increase in the next few months, but their peak this year is likely to be later than in 1949. Prospects are that prices of top grades will continue downward until about mid-summer, then rise seasonally to a high in late summer or early fall. This pattern would be different from last year's gradual advance from February to August, capped by a sharp rise in the fall. At their peak expected in late summer or early fall, prices of top grades of cattle are likely to be higher than at the same time in 1949, but probably will not equal the best prices of 1949 which were recorded unusually late in the year.

Prices of lower grades of slaughter cattle and of stocker and feeder cattle may have about reached their highest point for the spring. They are expected to decline seasonally during the summer.

Early spring lambs were reported in generally good condition on April 1. In Texas and California, two major producing States, their further progress after that date depended on arrival of rainfall to insure good feed. Early lambs will probably be marketed somewhat earlier this year than in 1949.

Returns from lamb feeding this winter apparently averaged lower than a year earlier but about the same as the general level of recent years. Feed was cheaper this year than last, but feeding margins were narrower. For the second year in a row, lambs sold in March brought a much higher price than those sold in December.

About the same volume of meat was produced commercially in January-March this year as in the same quarter of 1949. Consumption per person apparently was nearly equal to the 37.5 pounds consumed in the January-March period last year. Production the rest of this year is expected to exceed corresponding periods of last year, but only in the fourth quarter is the increase likely to be large enough to provide a higher rate of consumption per person.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Hog Slaughter at or Near Season High; Prices Steady in April

Hog marketings picked up the middle of April after declining from their high level at the end of March. However, the slaughter of 1,044,000 the week ended April 22 did not reach the mark of 1,111,000 set the last week of March. At the end of April, slaughter was probably at or near the season high.

Producers apparently rushed many fall-born hogs to market in anticipation of the ending of price support on March 31. The early movement had the effect of spreading out and moving forward the seasonal peak of marketings and slaughter.

Early marketings probably also minimized the seasonal decline in prices of hogs. Prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago averaged around $16.00 per 100 pounds through most of April, only $1.00 below the seasonal high in February. Since marketings are likely to start declining seasonally, prices may soon begin to rise.

About 37.3 million pigs were saved last fall, 10 percent more than in the fall of 1948. A considerable part of the increase in number saved has been offset by lighter average slaughter weights. Barrows and gilts received at 7 markets in March averaged only 232 pounds, 18 pounds lighter than in March 1949. In April, however, weights increased steadily, and in the first 3 weeks of the month averaged 8 pounds lighter than a year earlier.

The effect of the lighter slaughter weights has been a smaller increase over last year in output of pork, and less reduction in prices, than would otherwise have occurred from the larger pig crop.

Most of the increase in the pig crop last fall was confined to August and September farrowings. As a result of this bunching of the additional farrowings, together with a shorter feeding period for lighter weights, the number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection began to exceed comparable weeks last year as early as the second week in February. Slaughter of 5,020,000 head under Federal inspection in March was 16 percent larger than that in March 1949. April slaughter was above last April, and slaughter in May and early June is also expected to exceed that of the same months last year. The percentage increase over a year earlier is expected to taper off in May, and to be moderately small in June and much of the summer. The supply of barrows and gilts for slaughter this summer promises to be only slightly larger than last summer if marketings continue to be earlier than usual. However, more sows will be slaughtered this year. If prospects for only a small increase in the fall pig crop this year prove true, around 1/2 million more sows will be slaughtered this summer than last. Much of the increase in pork supplies this summer compared with last is likely to be provided from slaughter of sows.

On the basis of this outlook for slaughter supplies, prices of barrows and gilts may be expected to rise seasonally through mid-or late-summer. Their seasonal advance may be as large as average. Prices of sows will likely be weaker than usual in relation to those of barrows and gilts. The spread between medium and heavy weights of barrows and gilts, which has recently been narrow, will probably widen considerably, since prices of all heavy hogs will be affected by the large slaughter of sows.

There has been no announcement of a new program for price support on hogs.

Slaughter of Finished Cattle Increases; Price Spreads Between Grades Become More Narrow

Cattle slaughter to date this year has been smaller than last year, and up to the end of March an exceptionally small part was of well finished fed cattle grading Good or better. In April, the number of Good steers received at 3 Midwest markets increased substantially, but Choice and Prime steers remained scarce. As more finished cattle were marketed, price spreads between grades continued to narrow. The spread between Good and Common steers at Chicago, which was $10.00 per 100 pounds the first week of January, had closed to less than $5.00 the week ended April 20. (Table 1.)

Further narrowing of the price spread between grades is expected in the next month or two. It is possible that prices of the lower grades are near their seasonal peak, and will decline during the summer, but prices of Good and better cattle are likely to continue downward before beginning a seasonal advance sometime in midsummer.

Table 1.- Price per 100 pounds for beef steers sold at Chicago for slaughter; by grades, by weeks, January-April 1950

Week ended	Grade: Choice and Prime	Good	Medium	Common	All grades
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
January 5	37.59	29.18	24.25	19.23	26.55
12	37.20	28.35	24.24	20.03	26.24
19	36.60	28.11	24.37	20.86	26.21
26	35.14	27.54	23.85	20.83	25.34
February 2	35.43	27.48	24.00	20.65	25.61
9	34.78	27.26	23.79	21.16	25.55
16	35.03	27.18	24.21	21.48	25.64
23	33.10	26.95	24.14	21.37	25.42
March 2	32.97	27.30	24.38	22.09	25.61
9	32.83	27.49	24.47	22.20	25.85
16	31.89	27.31	24.44	22.07	25.68
23	31.94	27.15	24.46	21.89	25.87
30	31.71	27.40	24.79	22.51	26.29
April 6	31.37	27.44	24.81	22.66	26.47
13	31.39	27.39	25.07	22.71	26.60
20	30.20	27.18	24.92	22.48	26.60

Eight Percent More Cattle on Feed in Corn Belt April 1 This Year Than Last

On January 1, the number of cattle and calves on feed in 11 Corn Belt States was 5 percent larger than a year earlier, and the number for the entire United States was slightly larger and a new record for the date. During the January-March period, United States cattle slaughter was short of last year, because more of the cattle on feed were of light weight and due to remain on feed longer, and because slightly fewer cows were slaughtered. In the same period, shipments of feeders and stockers into the Corn Belt outnumbered those of a year earlier by the large margin of 33 percent. As a result, on April 1 the gain over last year in number on feed in 11 Corn Belt States was 8 percent. Apparently, the number for the United States also was larger this April than last.

A larger number than last April was reported on feed in Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska. Illinois, Michigan and South Dakota showed no change, and Minnesota and Kansas indicated slightly fewer on feed this April.

In California, the number of cattle and calves on feed April 1 was estimated at 42 percent above last year. Most of these cattle were due to be marketed in April and May.

Of the cattle on feed in the Corn Belt April 1, a smaller proportion was steers this year than last -- 67 percent compared with 71 percent. Heifers comprised 11 percent of the total this year, 16 percent last year. Calves were 21 percent this year, compared with 12 percent in April 1949.

Reports for the Corn Belt indicate that of the cattle on feed there in April, 58 percent will be marketed after July 1. Last year, feeders planned to hold only 51 percent until after that date. From these reports it may be expected that the seasonal increase in marketings of fed cattle will continue to be later this year than last. Slaughter of fed cattle will probably be about equal to a year earlier this spring, and a little larger than last year during much of the summer and fall.

Prices of Good and better grades of cattle at the seasonal peak expected in late summer or early fall are likely to be higher than at the same time last year. However, they may not be equal to the best prices of late 1949. The prospective pattern of top-grade cattle prices in 1950 is distinctly different from last year's gradual advance from February to August followed by a rapid rise in the fall. Price prospects for the rest of this year are generally favorable despite the large cattle slaughter expected because of indications that supplies of other meat animals will be little larger than last year. In 1950 as in 1949, large numbers of grass cattle probably will be retained on farms and ranches for restocking, with many of the lighter weights going on grain feed early. At least until the large fall marketings begin, slaughter supplies of hogs will probably be only moderately larger than last year, and much of the increase will be in sows.

Sheep Slaughter Above Year Earlier in April

Preliminary data for the first 3 weeks indicate that the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered in April was larger than in April 1949. This was the first month since September 1948 that slaughter of this species exceeded the comparable month of the previous year. The larger slaughter this April resulted from a more nearly normal seasonal pattern of marketings this spring than last. April-May marketings of sheep and lambs in 1949 were unusually small relative to the general level for that year.

Sheep and lamb marketings have been somewhat early this year. Feeding lambs were moved to feedlots early last fall, and fed lambs to market fairly early this winter. In late March and most of April, marketings were especially large from the Southwest where good condition of the sheep and lambs and the drying ranges were factors combining to step up the rate of marketings.

Sheep and lambs have been marketed at record heavy weights this year. The average weight of 103.5 pounds for Federally inspected slaughter in February was a high for all months since records began in 1921. The March average was down only slightly, to 103.1 pounds.

Despite the larger number in April, total Federally inspected slaughter of sheep and lambs for the first four months of 1950 was about 6 percent smaller than in the same months of 1949. This percentage change is larger than the 3 percent reduction on January 1 in the number of all sheep on farms and ranches and about the same as the 7 percent reduction in sheep and lambs on feed. To date, slaughter has been reduced enough to indicate that producers are maintaining numbers better this year than in 1949. It has been expected that numbers on farms next January would be as large as in January this year, ending the reduction of the last 8 years. Sheep and lamb numbers on January 1, 1950 were down 45 percent from their peak in January 1942.

Early Lambs in Generally Good Condition April 1

Early lambs were in generally good condition on April 1, although their progress during March varied by regions. In the Southeast, weather and feed were good except for excessive rainfall that prevented maximum use of pasture in some localities. In the Pacific Northwest, cool, wet weather retarded feed development. In California, where timely March rains improved ranges, early lambs had progressed well by April 1. In Texas, dry weather reduced the feed supply but lambs were still in good to excellent condition on April 1. In both Texas and California, continued good development of lambs after April 1 depended on arrival of rainfall to insure good feed.

Early lambs were expected to be marketed earlier this year than last. The main exception is in the Pacific Northwest, where marketings will probably be delayed.

Returns from Lamb Feeding Lower This Winter

Average returns from lamb feeding apparently were smaller this winter than last, much larger than two years ago, and about equal to the average for recent years. Feeder lambs cost slightly more, on the average, last fall than in the fall of 1948, and slaughter lambs brought a little less this winter than last. However, lower feed costs offset a part of the reduction in price margin. (Table 2.)

Returns to individual farmers probably varied greatly from these averages. Costs are far from uniform among feeders. For the second year in a row returns were much larger for feeders who marketed fed lambs in February-March than in December-January. Prices of Good and Choice slaughter lambs at Chicago rose from $21.91 per 100 pounds in December to $26.88 in March, an increase that was much greater than average for the season.

Range Conditions Poorer in March

Range feed conditions were slightly below average on April 1 after having been above average in previous months. Conditions declined in March, in contrast with the usual increase. Range conditions were dry in the Southern Great Plains and the Southwest, and growth of new feed was slow in the Northern Great Plains as well as in the Northwest. Cattle and sheep came through the winter in good flesh and losses were light. They were still in average or better condition on April 1.

Table 2.- Average prices and values of important items affecting returns from lamb feeding, 1944-45 to 1949-50

Item	1944-1945	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Price per 100 pounds of Good and Choice slaughter lambs, Chicago, December-March	15.93	15.12	23.34	23.83	25.72	24.33
Direct subsidy to producers, per 100 pounds	0	2.25	0	0	0	0
Price per 100 pounds of Good and Choice feeder lambs, Omaha, September-December	12.44	14.56	17.73	21.29	22.90	23.16
Price per bushel received by farmers for corn, North Central States, October-March	0.993	1.036	1.292	2.222	1.190	1.093
Price per ton received by farmers for alfalfa hay, loose, North Central States, October-March	18.12	15.93	1/ 23.00	1/ 25.00	1/ 25.25	1/ 21.6[illegible]
	Total value					
Market value at Chicago of Good and Choice 85 pound slaughter lambs	13.54	12.85	19.84	20.26	21.86	20.68
Subsidy credit	0	1.91	0	0	0	0
Market cost at Omaha of 60 pound feeder lambs	7.46	8.74	10.64	12.77	13.74	13.90
Cost of 2 1/2 bushels of corn	2.48	2.59	3.23	5.56	2.98	2.73
Cost of 150 pounds of alfalfa hay	1.36	1.19	1.72	1.88	1.89	1.63
Total of cost items shown 2/	11.30	12.52	15.59	20.21	18.61	18.26
Margin of market value per lamb over total of cost items shown 2/	2.24	2.24	4.25	.05	3.25	2.42

1/ Price received by farmers for alfalfa hay baled, North Central States. Prices for 1946-47 and 1947-48 estimated from price paid for baled alfalfa hay, U. S.
2/ Does not include purchasing or marketing expenses, labor cost, death losses, overhead costs or costs of other feed ingredients, or credits for manure. The prices shown are averages for the lamb-feeding season for the North Central region, and do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

January-March Commercial Meat Production About Same as Last Year; Year's Total To Be Larger Than 1949

Commercial meat production of 5,072 million pounds in the first quarter of 1950 was only 12 million pounds smaller than production in the same quarter last year. Production was down 4 percent from a year earlier for beef, 4 percent for veal, and 4 percent for lamb and mutton. Pork production was up 4 percent. (Table 3.)

Commercial production in January was about equal to that of January last year. February slaughter of each of the four classes of meat animals was smaller this year than in 1949 and 3 1/2 percent less meat was produced. In March, however, production of both lamb and mutton and pork exceeded last year, and the total for all meats showed a 0.2 percent gain.

Consumption of meat per person in January-March is tentatively estimated as very nearly equal to the 37.5 pounds consumed in the same quarter of 1949.

The rise in meat production in March to a point substantially above 1949 probably signals the beginning of a slightly higher plane of meat production for the spring and summer this year than last. It is likely that about as much beef and more pork will be produced in April-June and in July-September 1950 than in the same quarters of 1949, and that consumption of all meat per person will be close to last year's averages of 35.2 pounds in the second and 34.8 pounds in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter of this year, production of both beef and pork will probably be up from last year and consumption of all meat per person may be larger by 1 pound or more than the 37.4 pounds last year. Prospects are that total 1950 consumption per person will be 1 to 2 pounds above the 145 pounds consumed in 1949.

World Cattle Numbers Increase in 1949 to Set New Record

World cattle numbers at the beginning of 1950 were estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at 771 million head, 7 million or 1 percent more than in 1949 and 28 million or 4 percent more than the 1936-40 average. Largest increases in 1949 were in Asia, Europe, the Soviet Union, and North America. The combined number for Australia and New Zealand increased only a little, and numbers declined in South America and Africa. An improved feed situation and strong demand for beef and veal in most parts of the world encouraged cattle raisers to expand their herds.

The 1950 cattle numbers in North and South America are up 17 percent from their 1936-40 average, in Africa and Australia-New Zealand are respectively 10 and 8 percent larger than in that prewar period, but in Asia, Europe, and the Soviet Union are 2 to 6 percent smaller.

A moderate further increase in cattle numbers is expected in 1950.

Table 3.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-years 1946 to first quarter 1950

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
			All meats		
1946	5,839	4,440	4,409	5,831	20,519
1947	5,419	5,008	4,840	5,912	21,179
1948	5,026	4,650	4,296	5,480	19,452
1949	5,084	4,573	4,731	5,472	19,860
1950	5,072				
			Beef		
1946	2,479	1,800	2,191	2,540	9,010
1947	2,542	2,481	2,493	2,580	10,096
1948	2,264	2,108	2,188	2,309	8,869
1949	2,308	2,259	2,424	2,251	9,242
1950	2,224				
			Veal		
1946	278	252	376	423	1,329
1947	310	336	421	426	1,493
1948	292	321	365	352	1,330
1949	273	287	345	335	1,240
1950	263				
			Lamb and mutton		
1946	280	223	212	231	946
1947	198	190	182	209	779
1948	185	158	183	205	731
1949	158	113	153	161	585
1950	151				
			Pork excluding lard		
1946	2,802	2,165	1,630	2,637	9,234
1947	2,369	2,001	1,744	2,697	8,811
1948	2,285	2,063	1,560	2,614	8,522
1949	2,345	1,914	1,809	2,725	8,793
1950	2,434				

World Hog Numbers Rise 7 Percent in 1949

World hog numbers were estimated at 279,400,000 head on January 1 by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The increase of 17 million head or 7 percent in 1949, the largest gain for a postwar year, brought numbers to within 4 percent of the 1936-40 average.

The largest numerical increases in hog numbers last year were in Europe, North America and the Soviet Union. The 1950 number for Europe and the Soviet Union was still less than prewar, as was that in Asia and Australia-New Zealand.

In 1950, increases in hog numbers are likely in Europe and the Soviet Union as well as in several other areas.

World Sheep Numbers Also Rise in 1949

World numbers of sheep also increased in 1949, but by a smaller percentage than did numbers of cattle and hogs. The gain of about 1 percent in 1949 brought the January 1950 world total to 730 million head, which is 2 percent below the 1936-40 average. These estimates are made by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Australia, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, and India were countries reporting substantial increases last year. In Australia and the Soviet Union, as well as in New Zealand, Turkey and some smaller countries, 1950 numbers are above the 1936-40 average. Large declines in numbers took place last year in Argentina and Uruguay, where drought and competition from cattle were restrictive influences. Numbers dropped in Turkey also.

Generally favorable grazing conditions and high prices for wool, lamb and mutton encouraged an increase in sheep numbers in several major areas last year. Unless grazing conditions are poorer, world numbers are likely to rise in 1950.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Production, Marketings and Income for Meat Animals in 1949

Data released April 27 show a general increase in cattle and hog production in 1949 over 1948, and a smaller income received from marketings. The liveweight of cattle and calf production in 1949 was 6 percent larger than in 1948, and of hog production was 9 larger than in the previous year. Because their prices declined moderately from the very high 1948 level, cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves were down 8 percent. Prices of hogs fell more, and cash receipts from hog marketings were 13 percent smaller than in 1948. Both marketings and cash receipts for sheep and lambs last year were substantially smaller than in 1948.

The 1949 pig crop was 13 percent larger than the 1948 crop, and the calf crop was up 2.5 percent from 1948. The percentage calf crop was very high -- 85 percent. The lamb crop was reduced 6 percent in 1949 from 1948, primarily because the number of ewes on farms was smaller.

Summary data, which extend tables of the February 1950 Statistical Appendix to this Situation, are presented in tables 4-7.

Data on RFC and CCC Payments on Livestock

Table 8 presents, for reference purposes, summary data on the total amount of payments made on livestock in war and postwar years by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Commodity Credit Corporation. With the exception of a very small payment on hogs made to slaughterers by the CCC, all the RFC payments were to slaughterers and all the CCC payments were to livestock feeders. The latter two programs were parts of the price control measures of war and immediate postwar years. RFC payments to slaughterers began with the price roll-back of the summer of 1943, and CCC payments to feeders, intended to encourage feeding of cattle and sheep, were in effect from the summer of 1945 to June 30, 1946.

Table 8.- Subsidies on livestock paid by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Commodity Credit Corporation, fiscal years 1944-46

Fiscal year ending	Reconstruction Finance Corporation payments to slaughterers 1/	Commodity Credit Corporation payments to livestock producers 2/	
		On cattle	On sheep and lambs
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
June 30, 1944	462,226,717		
June 30, 1945	427,786,506	5,000,156	
June 30, 1946 3/	657,736,471	31,902,396	43,237,326
Total	1,547,749,694	36,902,552	43,237,326

1/ Payments made by a subsidary agency, the Defense Supplies Corporation.
2/ Feeding subsidies on cattle and sheep of certain specifications. Subsidies on cattle began May 19, 1945, and on sheep August 5, 1945. Both subsidies ended June 30, 1946. Data shown are costs to CCC as carried in accounting records. Not shown here are the payments of 330 dollars in fiscal year 1944 as bonus payments to packers who delivered up to 60 percent of their total pork production to CCC under contract. 3/ Data shown for fiscal year 1946 are corrected for delayed payments or recoveries of over-payments that took place in later years. Reported detail of accounting records are as follows:

Fiscal year ending	RFC payments to slaughterers	CCC payments to livestock producers	
		On cattle	On sheep & lambs
June 30, 1946	646,740,156	33,204,163	41,427,240
June 30, 1947	10,394,715	-1,299,861	1,810,912
June 30, 1948	601,600	-1,906	- 826

Compiled from Price Programs of the United States Department of Agriculture, 1949. USDA Misc. Pub. 683. Yearly data from agencies.

Table 4.- Number of cattle and calves on farms, calf crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1946 to date 1/

Year	On hand, Jan. 1: All cattle	On hand, Jan. 1: All cows 2 yrs. +	Calves born: Percentage of cows 2 yrs. +	Calves born: Number	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/: Cattle	Marketings 3/: Calves	Farm slaughter: Cattle	Farm slaughter: Calves	Deaths: Cattle	Deaths: Calves	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1946	82,434	43,014	80	34,550	8,877	26,188	12,656	943	758	1,566	2,543	18,782
1947	81,207	42,567	83	35,234	8,281	26,995	14,117	860	682	1,473	2,469	19,055
1948	78,126	41,039	82	33,708	7,620	23,370	12,728	800	561	1,405	2,292	18,371
1949	78,298	40,398	85	34,537	8,182	23,103	12,434	776	517	1,532	2,378	19,410
1950	80,277	41,411										

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of calf crop, inshipments and on hand beginning of year.
2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals.
3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Revises and brings to date table 5 of Statistical Appendix of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 5.- Number of hogs on farms, pig crops and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1946 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Pigs saved: Spring	Pigs saved: Fall	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/	Farm slaughter	Deaths	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1946	61,301	52,392	30,548	464	64,370	13,850	9,564	19,041
1947	56,921	52,802	31,345	497	63,524	12,781	10,232	18,667
1948	55,028	51,266	33,921	457	61,750	12,267	9,527	18,739
1949	57,128	59,039	37,262	541	70,584	11,549	11,415	20,376
1950	60,424	62,500						

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of pig crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year.
2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals.
3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Revises and brings to date table 6 of Statistical Appendix of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 6.- Number of sheep and lambs on farms, lamb crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1946 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1: all sheep and lambs	Lambs saved: Number	Lambs saved: Percent of ewes 1 yr. +	Inshipments 2/: Sheep	Inshipments 2/: Lambs	Marketings 3/: Sheep	Marketings 3/: Lambs	Farm slaughter: Sheep	Farm slaughter: Lambs	Deaths: Sheep	Deaths: Lambs	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1946	42,436	24,540	89	730	6,808	6,496	24,172	276	304	3,170	2,278	1,763
1947	37,818	22,082	88	652	6,000	5,052	21,116	257	302	2,890	2,108	1,579
1948	34,827	20,011	85	637	5,632	4,620	19,262	244	298	3,006	2,023	1,404
1949	31,654	18,810	87	763	5,338	3,419	17,019	222	274	2,949	1,885	1,313
1950	30,797											

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketing, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of lamb crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year.
2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals.
3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Revises and brings to date table 7 of Statistical Appendix of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 7.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1946 to date

Year	Live weight of marketing 1/: Cattle and calves	Live weight of marketing 1/: Sheep and lambs	Live weight of marketing 1/: Hogs	Meat animal marketings, Index no., 1935-39=100	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Cattle and calves	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Sheep and lambs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Hogs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: All meat animals	Gross income 2/ 3/: Cattle and calves	Gross income 2/ 3/: Sheep and lambs	Gross income 2/ 3/: Hogs	Gross income 2/ 3/: All meat animals
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1946	24,964	2,673	16,233	146	3,722	362	2,961	7,045	3,793	366	3,449	7,608
1947	25,902	2,274	16,015	147	4,932	403	4,005	9,340	5,017	408	4,635	10,060
1948	22,856	2,087	15,471	135	5,231	413	3,715	9,360	5,326	419	4,307	10,052
1949	23,430	1,790	17,237	139	4,814	355	3,225	8,395	4,896	360	3,657	8,913

1/ Excludes interfarm sales.
2/ Does not include Government payments.
3/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.
Revises and brings to date table 15 of Statistical Appendix of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 9.- Number of steers and of cows and heifers slaughtered under Federal inspection, United States, 1921-49

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Steers	Cows and Heifers	Cows 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1921	4,108	3,220	
1922	4,533	3,819	
1923	4,397	4,392	
1924	4,456	4,747	
1925	4,466	5,055	
1926	4,769	5,065	
1927	4,482	4,684	
1928	3,846	4,291	
1929	4,049	3,942	
1930	4,239	3,623	
1931	4,444	3,380	
1932	4,141	3,211	
1933	4,506	3,812	
1934	4,763	4,838	
1935	3,856	5,412	
1936	4,798	5,727	
1937	4,037	5,626	
1938	4,517	4,361	
1939	4,588	4,446	
1940	4,866	4,481	
1941	5,459	4,992	
1942	6,019	5,354	
1943	5,737	5,516	
1944	5,860	7,392	5,824
1945	6,657	7,311	5,691
1946	5,364	5,641	4,317
1947	6,968	7,983	6,030
1948	5,751	6,762	5,279
1949	7,090	5,670	4,178

1/ Data for cows not reported separately prior to 1944.

Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-March av. 1949	January-March av. 1950	1949 March	1950 February	1950 March	1950 April
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	26.97	34.58	25.88	34.70	32.24	
Good	do.	23.97	27.55	24.19	27.19	27.33	
Medium	do.	21.83	24.26	22.58	24.13	24.51	
Common	do.	20.03	21.37	21.21	21.55	22.13	
All grades	do.	23.58	25.82	24.14	25.58	25.90	
Omaha, all grades	do.	22.50	24.39	23.31	23.97	24.74	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	22.07	24.45	23.00	24.06	24.75	
Cows, Chicago							
Good	do.	18.59	19.12	19.11	19.27	20.60	
Common	do.	2/16.03	16.50	2/15.99	16.59	17.42	
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/15.17	14.39	3/15.11	14.34	14.84	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.55	30.43	27.98	31.23	29.39	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	22.59	24.13	24.37	24.13	25.32	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	19.73	20.27	20.50	20.40	21.00	
Veal calves	do.	24.63	24.10	24.50	24.60	24.40	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	21.28	16.66	21.39	17.30	16.17	
180-200 pounds	do.	21.41	16.90	21.53	17.53	16.59	
200-220 pounds	do.	21.26	16.89	21.48	17.56	16.72	
220-240 pounds	do.	20.80	16.63	21.21	17.25	16.70	
240-270 pounds	do.	20.10	16.21	20.65	16.78	16.51	
270-300 pounds	do.	19.35	15.80	19.93	16.32	16.21	
All weights	do.	20.00	16.27	20.49	16.85	16.41	
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.91	16.26	20.56	16.78	16.38	
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.54	13.87	16.72	14.60	14.52	
Price received by farmers	do.	19.90	15.95	20.00	16.60	16.10	
Hog-corn price ratio 5/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.9	12.4	15.3	13.0	12.3	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	16.8	13.6	16.9	14.3	13.5	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.79	13.08	13.34	13.04	13.99	
Price received by farmers	do.	9.50	10.28	10.10	10.20	11.00	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	25.94	25.13	28.78	25.32	26.88	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	---	25.12	---	25.12	26.59	
Price received by farmers	do.	22.33	22.70	23.60	22.80	23.70	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		320	300	327	306	308	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	38.19	42.76	38.78	42.25	42.12	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	47.81	6/45.50	51.66	---	---	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	22.35	17.92	22.49	18.46	17.90	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.68	24.60	30.88	25.34	24.57	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.63	21.00	25.84	21.47	21.20	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.94	29.44	36.23	30.10	29.73	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	64.0	67.8	63.3	66.8	69.4	
Lamb	do.	60.6	64.1	60.9	63.6	65.8	
Pork, including lard	do.	41.6	36.3	41.4	36.4	36.8	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		219.2	212.7	222.4	216.3	213.6	
Retail (1935-39=100)		221.0	221.0	222.5	220.5	224.5	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Price for January only.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-March 1949	January-March 1950	1949 March	1950 February	1950 March	1950 April
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		137	139	135	122	137	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States							
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	291	386	126	112	141	
Sheep and lambs	do.	286	328	61	112	101	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	3,222	3,123	1,102	939	1,082	
Calves	do.	1,579	1,494	619	443	586	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,229	2,879	949	863	939	
Hogs	do.	13,771	15,055	4,315	4,191	5,020	
Percentage sows	Percent	8	10	9	10	9	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	990	996	1,000	1,000	995	
Calves	do.	181	181	165	181	170	
Sheep and lambs	do.	98	102	99	104	103	
Hogs	do.	251	240	246	239	234	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	542	544	554	546	547	
Veal, per head	do.	101	101	93	101	96	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	45	49	46	49	49	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	135	138	134	133	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	57	
Lard, per head	do.	38	35	37	35	34	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	15	15	14	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	1,739	1,691	607	510	589	
Veal	do.	158	150	57	44	55	
Lamb and mutton	do.	146	140	43	42	46	
Pork 2/	do.	1,919	2,028	594	559	665	
Lard	do.	529	530	159	147	168	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	1,000 head	4,485	4,281	1,542	1,292	1,479	
Calves	do.	2,684	2,571	833	780	989	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,509	3,126	1,343	937	1,020	
Hogs	do.	17,071	18,291	6,572	5,208	6,060	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	2,308	2,224	807	674	772	
Veal	do.	273	263	98	80	96	
Lamb and mutton	do.	158	151	47	46	50	
Pork 2/	do.	2,345	2,434	730	686	794	
Lard	do.	604	609	184	172	193	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	140	130	113	102
Veal	do.	---	---	18	13	11	10
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	20	14	13	11
Pork	do.	---	---	611	583	573	547
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	903	850	816	780

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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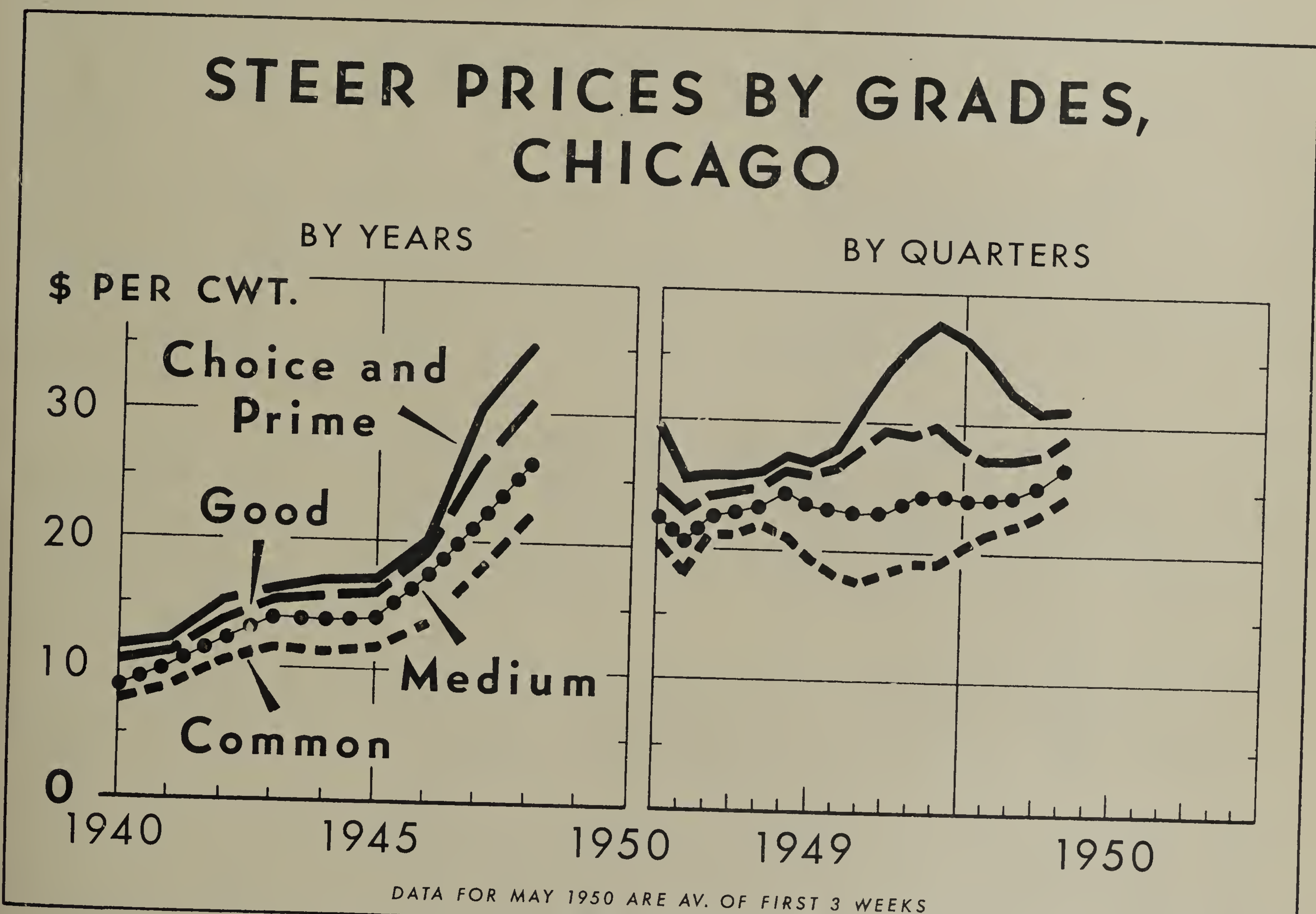
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

**FOR RELEASE
JUNE 8, P. M.**

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-39 BAE MAY 1950

In this issue:
The Grading System for Livestock and Meat



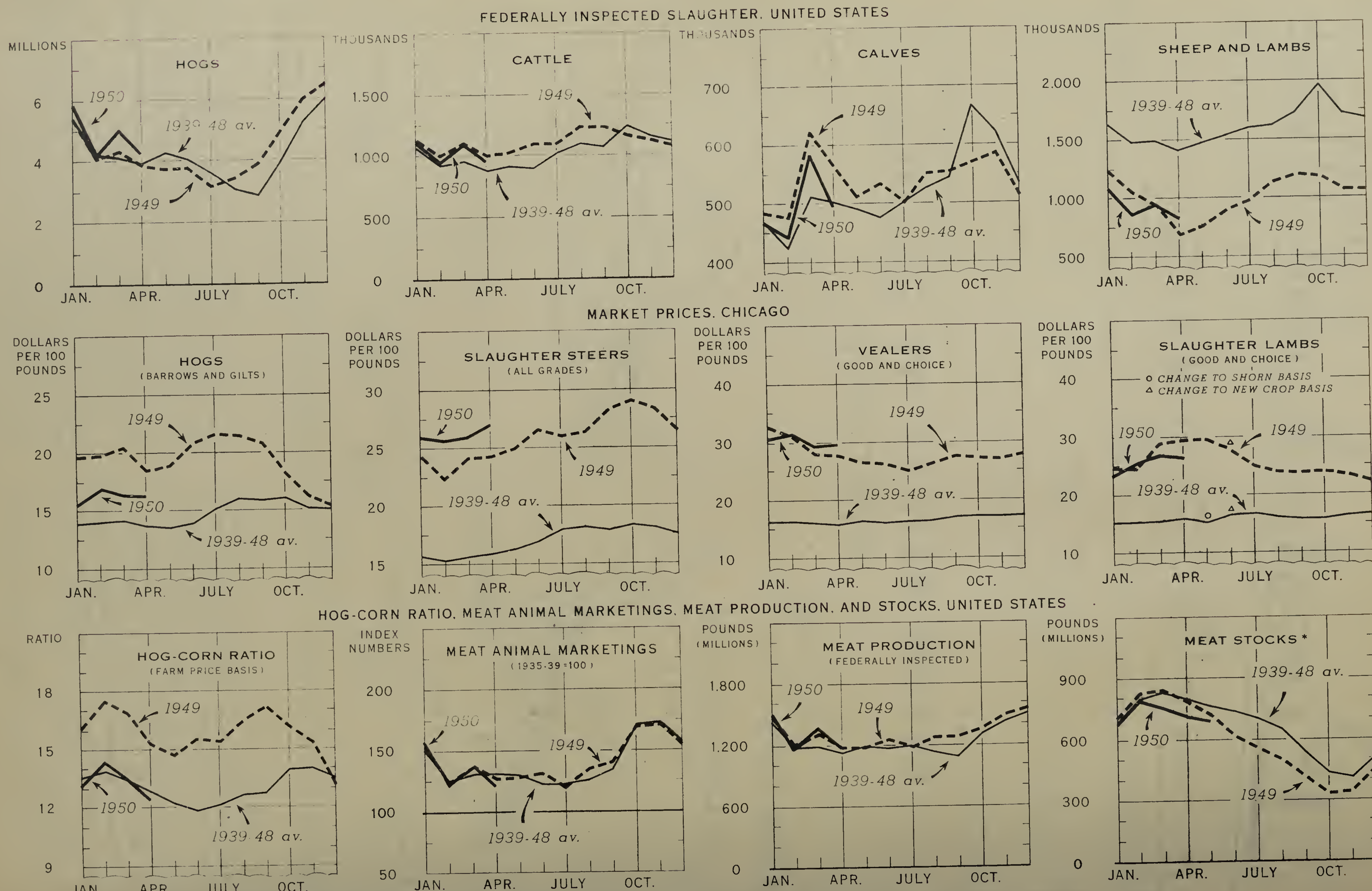
U. S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47655-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Chicago prices of each grade of slaughter steers in May were higher than last May, but the best grades were up most. The spread between average prices of Prime and Choice and of Common steers was $6.88 per 100 pounds in 3 weeks of May. In May 1949 the spread was $4.05. A short supply of best-quality steers this winter and spring has caused the price spread, though narrowing seasonally, to be wider than last year.

Prices of each grade except the top have risen for 3 months, but the greatest advance has occurred since mid-April. Only for Medium and Common grades is an increase usual at this time of year. Nearly all meat animal prices rose in late April and May, apparently because of a stronger demand for meat.

If demand levels off, prices of the lower grades are expected to decline seasonally during the summer, but those of the upper grades may strengthen further and reach a peak in late summer or early fall.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, May 24, 1950

SUMMARY

Prospects are for seasonally high prices of most classes of meat animals this summer. Some reaction from the rapid April-May price rise may first occur, but further advances are likely later.

Nearly all classes participated in the April-May uptrend. Prices of hogs rose most. Slaughter ewes were the only market class of livestock for which prices declined.

Barrows and gilts climbed $3.50 per 100 pounds from mid-April to mid-May. Their average of $19.46 at Chicago the week ended May 20 was the highest since last September and was 63 cents above the price in the same May week of last year. In all weeks of January through April, prices of barrows and gilts were lower than a year earlier, usually by $3.00 to $4.00.

Prices of Choice and Prime steers for slaughter were steady as market supplies of that grade increased seasonally, but prices of all other grades of slaughter steers, stockers and feeders, and cows advanced in price. Prices of all grades and classes of cattle in mid-May were substantially higher than in May 1949, and close to the records for the month set in May 1948.

Most likely to go up further this summer are prices of barrows and gilts, for which it is the high season. Prices of well-finished cattle may also strengthen further. Peaks for both may be reached in late summer or early fall. A seasonal decline in hog prices -- probably at least an average decline -- is expected next fall. Prices of top grade cattle may fall off moderately.

Prices of stocker and feeder cattle and lower grades of slaughter steers will probably decline during the summer, although strength in prices of well-finished steers may be delaying their seasonal downturn.

Marketings of barrows and gilts for slaughter promise to be only a little larger this summer than last. Marketings of well-finished slaughter cattle, which to date this year have been small relative to the record-large volume of cattle feeding, are expected to increase materially in the next few months. Total cattle slaughter has averaged slightly below last year but is expected to about equal 1949 during the summer and be larger than 1949 during the fall.

Prices for sheep and lambs are likely to decline seasonally this summer, but perhaps not as much as usual. Prices will probably remain comparatively high. Sheep and lamb slaughter in April and May was larger than last year but in months to come it is expected to be smaller than a year earlier.

The higher prices for meat animals in late April and May paralleled a rising trend for retail prices of meat. However, weekly production of meat under Federal inspection was equal to or larger than a year earlier. Demand for meat apparently has strengthened this spring. The increase in demand is the first, aside from usual seasonal changes, since the summer of 1948. Nevertheless, the retail value of meat consumed has no more than held its own with the increase in personal incomes occurring this year, and relative to incomes it is slightly below average. Demand for meat is likely to remain a little below prewar average relationships to income. The long-run outlook is for demand to increase substantially, even though it might represent a slowly declining part of total national incomes and expenditures.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Most Livestock Prices Sharply Higher

Prices of meat animals have advanced rapidly beginning in mid-April. Prices of barrows and gilts rose most, but almost all classes moved up. It was the most nearly uniform price increase since May 1949. In the 12 months intervening, price movements had differed among classes and, except for a growing weakness in hog prices, were mainly seasonal.

Meat production under Federal inspection increased week by week in April and declined only moderately in May. It has been as large or larger than a year earlier. Since meat supplies were well maintained, the higher prices of meat animals are ascribed primarily to a stronger demand.

Prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago climbed $3.50 per 100 pounds from mid-April to mid-May. Their average of $19.46 the week ended May 20 was the highest since last September and 63 cents above the price in the same May week last year. In all weeks of January through April, prices of barrows and gilts were lower than a year earlier, usually by $3.00 to $4.00. Prices of sows increased less in April-May than barrows and gilts, but in mid-May they too were higher than a year earlier. Although prices of hogs were about due to rise seasonally, these increases were earlier and much faster than usual.

Prices of well-finished cattle, which usually decline at this time of year, were strong in April and May. For the Choice and Prime slaughter steers, prices were steady as market supplies increased. For Good grade steers, prices rose to an average of $29.00 per 100 pounds at Chicago in early May, about $2.00 more than in mid-April and $4.00 more than in May 1949. Feeder and stocker steers at Kansas City brought more than $27.00, up $1.50 or more from mid-April and $3.00 from a year before. Prices of all grades and classes of cattle were close to the records for May set two years ago.

Prices of lambs were steady to slightly higher in April-May. Slaughter ewes declined steadily in price, the only market class to do so. The season's peak for lamb prices is usually in April or May, but for ewes it is about a month earlier.

Table 1.- Market prices per 100 pounds for selected classes of meat animals, by weeks, March-May 1950

Week ended	Slaughter steers, Chicago: Good grade	Slaughter steers, Chicago: Average, 4 grades	Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	Barrows and gilts, Chicago	Slaughter lambs, wooled, Good and Choice, Chicago
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
March 4	27.30	25.61	24.89	30.00	16.88	26.89
11	27.49	25.85	25.72	28.80	16.84	27.25
18	27.31	25.68	25.25	29.00	16.45	26.78
25	27.15	25.87	25.25	29.00	16.09	27.10
April 1	27.40	26.29	25.28	30.15	15.86	26.40
8	27.44	26.47	25.40	29.20	15.94	26.25
15	27.39	26.60	25.82	29.55	16.06	26.30
22	27.18	26.60	25.88	29.20	16.26	26.35
29	28.44	27.85	26.04	29.90	16.97	27.25
May 6	28.85	28.48	26.32	29.90	17.55	27.42
13	28.92	28.70	27.39	30.60	19.14	26.88
20	29.20	28.99	27.68	30.95	19.46	27.02

1/ Average for all weights and grades.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Meat Production in April-May Above Last Year

Weekly production of meat increased in April while prices were rising, and averaged a little larger than in April 1949. Production declined in May but averaged at least equal to last May.

Hog slaughter rose to 1,103 thousand head the week ended April 29, then began a seasonal decline. Pork production has been steadily above last year.

Cattle slaughter increased somewhat after early April as supplies of well-finished fed cattle expanded seasonally. The number slaughtered under Federal inspection in May was about equal to May 1949, but average slaughter weights were lighter and beef production was a little smaller.

Through mid-May, sheep and lamb slaughter remained above the very low year-earlier level.

Demand for Meat Stronger Following Prolonged Decline

Higher prices for meat animals in April and May paralleled rising price trends in retail prices of meat. Retail prices as reported at Baltimore each Wednesday by the Production and Marketing Administration showed gains between April 12 and May 17 for 24 of 27 meat items. Many increases were of 5 to 8 cents per pound, or around 10 percent. Demand for meat apparently strengthened considerably this spring.

Just after the war, demand for meat was unusually strong relative to consumers' incomes. In the summer of 1948, demand rose to an all-time high. It then weakened, beginning a prolonged decline. In 1949, the retail value of meat consumed averaged slightly below a prewar relationship to incomes. The index of retail value of consumption in 1949 was 243 compared with an index of disposable personal income of 250 (1935-39=100). (Table 2.)

In the first quarter of 1950, the retail value of consumption was slightly below both the first quarter of 1949 and the 1949 average. It was apparently unaffected by the substantial increase in personal incomes at the time.

Much of the decline in demand for meat the last two years is attributed to a growing weakness in demand for pork, and especially in demand for the fat cuts of pork. The retail value of pork consumption in the first quarter of 1950 was down 8 percent from a year earlier. The retail value of beef, on the other hand, was up a little from the first quarter of last year.

Meat prices this spring responded to the larger personal incomes of this year. They increased faster than last spring. For the second quarter, prices of beef will average considerably higher than a year earlier, and prices of pork moderately lower. Meat consumption in the second quarter will probably be as large as the 34.9 pounds per person in that period last year. With as much or more meat as a year earlier, and a higher average price for all meat combined, the retail value of consumption will be larger. On a seasonally adjusted basis it will exceed also the figure for the first quarter this year.

The strengthening this spring is the first material increase in demand for meat since the summer of 1948. Nevertheless, the gain in demand is probably no greater than the rise that has occurred in incomes. The retail value of meat consumed is probably remaining slightly below a prewar average relationship to incomes.

It is unlikely that demand for meat will increase much more in coming months or the next year or two, unless it is stimulated by a further rise in personal incomes. The retail value of meat consumption will probably hold slightly below a prewar average relationship to income. There are several reasons for this. A minor one is the prospective continued weakness in demand for fat cuts of pork. More important is the slow long-run decline in the value of, and expenditures for, meat relative to total incomes. In an expanding industrial nation such as the United States, the production and value of meat, and of all foods combined, will not rise as fast as the output and value of industrial goods. Therefore, even though the value of all meat expands absolutely, it becomes a smaller proportion of total national income.

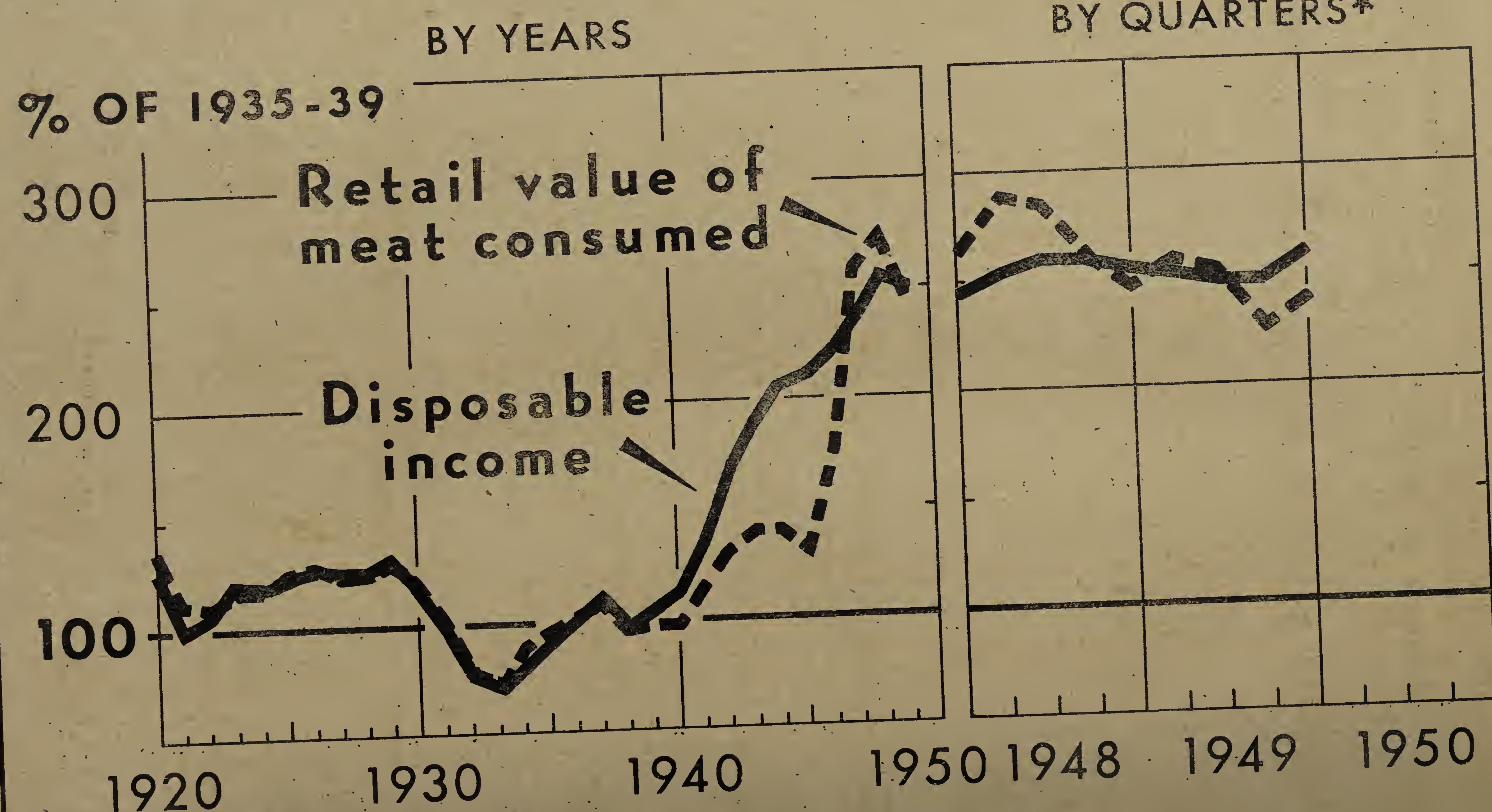
Table 2.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, seasonally adjusted, by quarter-year, 1948 to date

Quarter year	All meat: Actual values: Civilian consumption per capita	Actual values: Average retail price per pound 1/	Adjusted for seasonal variation: Consumption per capita	Adjusted for seasonal variation: Retail price per pound	Index number, 1935-39=100: Retail value of consumption per capita 2/	Index number, 1935-39=100: Disposable personal income per capita
	Pounds	Cents	Pounds	Cents	Percent	Percent
All meat						
1948						
Jan.-Mar.	38.1	---	36.9	---	261	243
Apr.-June	35.7	---	38.2	---	285	253
July-Sept.	33.4	---	35.7	---	282	259
Oct.-Dec.	38.2	---	34.6	---	257	259
Year	145.4	---	145.4	---	271	254
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	37.1	---	36.0	---	244	254
Apr.-June	34.9	---	37.2	---	255	251
July-Sept.	34.5	---	36.8	---	250	247
Oct.-Dec.	37.5	---	33.8	---	223	247
Year	143.8	---	143.8	---	243	250
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	37.3	---	36.1	---	238	260
Beef						
1948						
Jan.-Mar.	16.2	66.3	16.0	67.6	271	243
Apr.-June	15.3	73.0	16.6	73.4	303	253
July-Sept.	15.3	80.9	15.3	78.8	301	259
Oct.-Dec.	15.8	74.8	14.7	74.9	274	259
Year	62.6	73.7	62.6	73.7	287	254
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	16.0	64.0	15.2	65.2	257	254
Apr.-June	16.0	65.7	17.3	66.2	286	251
July-Sept.	16.3	68.2	16.2	66.4	268	247
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	69.3	14.1	69.4	243	247
Year	63.4	66.8	63.4	66.8	264	250
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	15.5	67.2	15.3	68.4	261	260
Pork, excluding lard						
1948						
Jan.-Mar.	18.4	50.2	17.0	51.7	257	243
Apr.-June	17.1	50.6	17.8	51.4	269	253
July-Sept.	14.3	56.4	16.8	54.4	267	259
Oct.-Dec.	18.6	52.0	16.3	51.5	253	259
Year	68.4	52.3	68.4	52.3	262	254
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	17.9	47.0	16.6	48.4	236	254
Apr.-June	16.1	47.4	16.7	48.2	235	251
July-Sept.	14.8	49.4	17.4	47.6	242	247
Oct.-Dec.	18.8	43.9	16.9	43.6	215	247
Year	67.6	46.9	67.6	46.9	232	250
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	18.8	41.7	17.4	42.9	219	260

Weighted U.S. average retail price for important cuts. 2/ Computed from esti-
ed retail weight equivalent of consumption. Because much meat is delivered
ough other than retail channels, this is not consumer expenditure for meat.

MEAT AND INCOME

Retail Value of Consumption and Income, Per Person



*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ANNUAL RATE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46559A-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Price Trends May Be Upward Through Late Summer

Prices of most meat animals and meats usually trend higher during the summer, the season of shortest supplies. This year a rise is again likely, although a brief period of stability or of reaction from the recent advance may first occur. Prices of hogs will probably reach a seasonal peak in late summer. The supplies of pork will be only a little larger this summer than last, since most of the increased number of hogs raised from the 1949 fall pig crop have already been marketed.

Prices of stocker and feeder cattle and of the lower grades of slaughter cattle are likely to decline seasonally during the summer. On the other hand, prices of cattle of Good grade or better may strengthen further. Unless demand continues upward, a summer rise in prices of these classes would probably be moderate, since it would start from a high level and would be retarded by materially increasing supplies of grain-fed cattle.

Market supplies of well-finished cattle for slaughter have been small the past winter and spring relative to the record-large volume of cattle feeding. Through March, the number of slaughter steers of the two top grades sold at three midwest markets was down greatly from a year earlier. By April the supply of Good steers had reached the corresponding 1949 level. Choice and Prime steers, although received in increasing numbers, have remained comparatively scarce.

Reduced marketings of top-grade cattle have resulted chiefly from the young age and light weights of the cattle put on feed during the winter. Both the January 1 and April 1 reports of cattle on feed showed that cattle would be held on feed until later this year than last. Moreover, even though many feeders have been content to take the visible profits realized by bringing their cattle up to Medium or low Good grade, the wide margin for Choice grade has been an incentive for other feeders to outbid slaughterers for cattle to go back on feed. Consequently, there has been more turnover in cattle this year than in 1949. Reports show a greater increase in farm sales and shipments of stocker and feeder cattle than is reflected in numbers slaughtered.

Total cattle slaughter this summer is expected to be approximately equal to that last summer. Slaughter may not decrease so much this fall as last, and in the fourth quarter the number slaughtered may be larger than a year earlier. Prices late in the year are likewise expected to trace a pattern different from the advance after August last year. Prices of Good and better grades of slaughter steers may reach their seasonal peak in late summer or early fall, and are likely to begin a seasonal decline considerably earlier than last year. Following a summer downtrend, prices of lower grades of slaughter cattle and of stocker and feeder steers may be fairly steady in late months.

Prices of sheep and lambs are expected to continue high even though declining seasonally during the summer. Prices in late April and May were close to the 1949 record prices for the season, despite the larger slaughter in those months this year than last. The higher level of slaughter this

spring is a more normal seasonal distribution than in 1949, when spring slaughter was very small. It has been built from large marketings of yearling lambs out of the Southwest and from earlier movement of spring lambs out of some areas this year than in 1949. Sheep and lamb slaughter during most of the remaining months of 1950 is expected to be smaller than a year earlier. This return to a lower level of slaughter will tend to limit the seasonal decline in prices of both sheep and lambs this summer and early fall.

Table 3.- Average price per 100 pounds for beef steers for slaughter, by grades, Chicago, by years 1940-49, by months 1949-50

Year or month	Data for cover page chart				
	Grade				
	Choice and Prime	Good	Medium	Common	All grades
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1940	11.86	10.48	8.84	7.51	10.43
1941	12.23	11.36	10.02	8.64	11.33
1942	15.19	13.90	12.22	10.40	13.79
1943	16.23	15.34	14.01	11.66	15.30
1944	17.05	15.73	13.87	11.25	15.44
1945	17.30	16.00	14.12	11.73	16.18
1946	20.24	19.32	17.36	13.75	19.16
1947	30.64	26.22	21.76	18.04	25.83
1948	35.24	30.96	26.31	22.16	30.88
1949	28.65	26.07	23.17	19.77	25.80
1949					
Jan.	29.41	24.72	22.41	20.49	24.35
Feb.	25.61	22.99	20.49	18.39	22.25
Mar.	25.88	24.19	22.58	21.21	24.14
Apr.	25.81	24.37	22.87	21.22	24.20
May	26.12	24.92	23.62	22.07	24.88
June	27.51	26.37	24.61	21.26	26.47
July	27.02	25.96	23.46	19.27	25.86
Aug.	28.01	26.50	23.06	18.20	26.28
Sept.	31.33	28.22	23.01	17.83	28.11
Oct.	34.27	29.63	23.24	18.48	28.93
Nov.	36.25	29.35	24.26	19.02	28.21
Dec.	37.77	29.91	24.50	19.23	26.47
1950					
Jan.	36.80	28.14	24.13	20.44	25.98
Feb.	34.70	27.19	24.13	21.55	25.58
Mar.	32.24	27.33	24.51	22.13	25.90
Apr.	30.94	27.66	25.21	22.99	26.94
May 1/	31.12	28.99	26.86	24.24	28.72

1/ Average of first three weeks.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Early Lambs in Favorable Condition May 1

The condition of early spring lambs on May 1 was generally favorable, in spite of cool weather and slow growth of pastures in many sections.

In California, timely rains improved feed supplies and development of lambs. Early lambs in that State will be marketed later and at heavier weight this year than last, with a peak movement expected to be reached before the end of May.

In the Pacific Northwest, cold weather and lack of new green pasture will retard marketings of early lambs, but more of them are nevertheless expected to move at slaughter condition, rather than as feeders, this year than last.

Rainfall in Texas sheep country improved the prospects for early lambs there.

Although hindered somewhat by slow growth of pastures due to limited rainfall, early lambs in the Southeast have developed well. Because lambing was earlier, early lambs from that region will be marketed in advance of usual dates.

Spring Pastures Poor

Pastures and meadows have developed slowly this spring. In most northern pastures, the stock-carrying capacity on May 1 was below average. The condition of pastures on May 1, according to the Crop Report, was down to 74 percent compared with 85 percent on May 1, 1949 and the May average of 81 percent. Hay meadows were also in below-average condition. Western ranges failed to make the usual new growth in April and on May 1 were poorer than average. Feeding of hay and roughage has been necessary in much of the country. Livestock were nevertheless reported in fairly good condition except in the northern range States and local dry areas.

Meat Inspection Service Offered to Local Slaughterers

A full Federal meat inspection and certification service will be offered beginning June 2 to meat packers who sell their products in local areas without crossing State lines. Use of the service will be voluntary. Federal inspection has been provided only to packers engaging in interstate commerce, for whom it is mandatory under the Meat Inspection Act of 1906.

The new service, like the old, will be administered by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the USDA. However, since its regulations will be established under the Farm Products Inspection Act rather than the 1906 Act, it does not have the status of the regular inspection of interstate slaughterers. Products identified as inspected and certified in the new service will not be eligible for interstate shipment or for entrance into plants operating under the Act of 1906.

The certification stamp for meat inspected under the new service will differ slightly from the familiar circular stamp found on Federally inspected meat. The new stamp will be diamond shaped, and will carry the legend, "U. S. Inspected and Certified." Wording on the round stamp is "U. S. Inspected and Passed."

World Meat Production Up 5 Percent Last Year

Production of 68.3 billion pounds of meat in 1949 in the principal livestock countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, has been estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the USDA. This was 5 percent more than production in 1948 and slightly larger than the 1934-38 average. The 1949 meat production was one of the largest, if not the largest, on record.

The increase in 1949 over 1948 was general. Only a few countries, such as Canada and Mexico, had reductions, and those were small. Improved grazing and feed conditions, a greater number of livestock on farms, and strong demand for meat were mainly responsible for a larger output last year. In much of South America, dry weather caused some liquidation of herds, which pushed meat production above the high 1948 level and almost to the 1947 record high.

Present conditions point to a favorable outlook for another increase in world meat production in 1950.

THE GRADING SYSTEM FOR LIVESTOCK AND MEAT

by

E. E. Miller

For all livestock except breeding animals and minor species there has been established a set of market grades and classes, defined and described by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Official U. S. grade standards have also been set up for nearly all meats. Taken together, market grades and classes comprise a system of designation which provides useful distinctions between otherwise broad categories. There is an obviously large and significant difference, for example, between Choice and Common slaughter steers or between Good and Canner cows. Consumers have preferences for meat according to its quality. Despite the fact that most sales are made after a personal inspection by the buyer, a system of market classes and grades is basic in so complex an activity as trade in livestock and meats. It is the intent of this discussion to summarize the important points of the existing classifications and to outline briefly some of the recent proposals for changing or expanding them.

In their general nature, market standards provide a system of concepts and language that is of value to both buyers and sellers. When standard market grades are used, the seller has a better idea of what the market will pay for his product, and the buyer can determine more accurately what he will

have to pay for the kind of product he wants. A certification as to grade is a valuable guide in marketing and may sometimes be a protection against defects or unwanted characteristics not apparent without a very careful inspection. So much reliance may be placed on grading, in fact, that in some cases trading takes place without a personal inspection by the buyer. The advantages that accrue from a system of grades have both long-and short-time value in that they can be used to point out more effectively the trends in market demands.

In their more specific application, market grades of live animals and meats have their greatest importance in facilitating trade and in making possible more meaningful price quotations and market reports. In addition, market grades of meats are an aid in merchandising. Considerable reliance is placed on the grade certification of meat by housewives, and retailers give recognition to this fact in meeting their demands.

The development of standard market classes and grades of livestock and meats was made difficult by the highly varied physical characteristics of both the live animals and dressed meat. The variations within grades and the limits between grades had to be carefully outlined. Animals or carcasses typical of the various grades needed to be accurately described. Photographs were necessary to supplement written descriptions. Uniform grade terms and concepts were also essential, yet those desired for adoption were often in conflict with terms already in use. The establishment of national standards was given particular emphasis when, in 1916, the Department of Agriculture was authorized to report market conditions and transactions at the various livestock and meat markets. 1/ The standards set up for these reports were effected through the cooperation of the livestock marketing interests, State Agricultural Experiment Stations, producer organizations, various meat merchandising interests and the Department of Agriculture. From the preliminary classifications in the first market reporting by the USDA, a rather complete system of classes and grades has since been elaborated for use in all official market reports on livestock and meats. Changes in terms or definitions of the official standards have been made from time to time and are still being made, largely through mutual agreement of the trade and the Department of Agriculture.

The various kinds of livestock are broadly grouped according to the purpose for which they are to be used. U. S. standards set up are for Slaughter, Feeder, and Stocker animals. The market class is determined by sex. The class is usually subdivided into age and weight groups, which are easily defined and applied by impartial methods. The final breakdown is into grades, determined according to the relative excellence of animals within each previous grouping. Grade designations are more subjective in nature than are classes and, in general, are determined by a careful appraisal and evaluation of three factors: conformation, finish and quality. The meaning of these terms has become standardized and is intended to provide a sound basis for determining the relative desirability of the animal in relation to the purpose for which it is used.

1/ Previously there had been attempts to set up grades for general acceptance in local areas. Federal grades set up after 1916 drew on the earlier work, especially that at the University of Illinois, where Professor H. W. Mumford published a bulletin on grades for cattle as early as 1902.

Since it was generally recognized that the class and grade terms used to describe slaughter animals should be related to resulting carcass grades, corresponding carcass standards were usually set up for each class and grade of slaughter animals. There were originally almost as many grades and classes of meat as of live animals. Use of the full set of standards for meat proved somewhat impractical, as it was found that many of the distinguishing differences in slaughter animals did not carry through as important differences in carcasses. Where grade standards can be applied interchangeably, as in steer, heifer and cow beef, no separate identification of class is used in the meat grading system. The carcass classes remaining in use are primarily age selections such as beef versus veal, and those for mature male animals such as bulls.

The grades and classes of slaughter animals in use at the present time are shown in the following table. Grade distinctions are specific for each class of animal. There thus is no necessary correspondence between standards for, say, Good grade cows and Good grade sows. Grades are available for certain additional classes that lack enough animals marketed to make grading effective. Some classes, such as boars, are not graded.

Feeder and stocker animals follow a corresponding system of classification. In actual practice, some classes of animals such as stags (of cattle), vealers, sows, boars, stags (of swine), rams and mature wethers comprise so small a percentage of animals sold for feeder or stocker purposes that official grades have not been set up although definitions are theoretically possible. For feeder and stocker animals, the top grade is called Fancy instead of Prime and the lowest grade is called Inferior.

Grades are probably used more often for specification buying of feeder and stocker cattle than of any other class of livestock. This comes about because many Corn Belt feeders place orders with buyers for stock to be bought and shipped from range country.

There are fewer grades and classes of meat than of live animals. Beef is graded Prime, Choice, Good, Commercial, Utility, Cutter and Canner. The official grades of veal, calf, lamb, yearling and mutton carcasses are Prime, Choice, Good, Commercial, Utility, and Cull. Standards for hog carcasses and cuts of pork have been developed but not put into general use.

Market reports on livestock usually quote prices by market class and by grade. However, prices of barrows and gilts are usually reported by weight groups, with almost all receipts considered "Good and Choice." Although grades are used to report prices of cattle and sheep at central markets, this does not mean that animals sold there are officially graded. Buying and selling is done by pens or lots of animals, many of them of mixed grades, ranging in number from a single animal to several carloads. The grade of animals may be taken into consideration but perhaps not mentioned by either buyer or seller in their bargaining. The reporting of prices on a grade basis is accomplished through the activities of the market reporter, who makes a judgment as to grade on sample lots and determines the price range by grades from the sale prices on those lots.

Table 4.- Market classes and grades of slaughter livestock 1/

Specie and class	Grade: Prime	Choice	Good	Medium	Common	Cutter	Canner	Cull
Cattle and calves:								
Steers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Heifers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Cows		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Bulls		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Stags		x	x	x	x	x	x	
Vealers	x	x	x	x	x			x
Calves	x	x	x	x	x			x
Hogs:								
Barrows and gilts		x	x	x				x
Sows		x	x	x				x
Pigs		x	x	x				x
Sheep and lambs:								
Lambs	x	x	x	x	x			x
Ewes	x	x	x	x	x			x
Wethers	x	x	x	x	x			x
Rams		x	x	x	x			x

1/ Official specifications provide for intermediate sub-classes of age and weight groups for which the various ranges of grades are made applicable. For certain sub-classes of each class fewer grades than those shown here are available. In practice, class and grade distinctions are the important ones, and grades listed in this table may be regarded as available for all animals of each class.
Compiled from Market Classes and Grades of Livestock, USDA Department bulletin 1360.

Very few market statistics are available on numbers of livestock falling in the various grade groups. The outstanding exception is the classification of Corn Belt beef steers sold on the Chicago market for slaughter, for which number, price and weight by each of 4 grades have been published since 1922. In July 1948 a similar service was instituted at Omaha and Sioux City.

In 1927, soon after official carcass grades were promulgated, official grading and stamping of beef was started as a voluntary service at Chicago. At first the costs of grading were paid from Federal appropriations but in 1928 grading was placed on a regular service basis supported from fees paid by those requesting the work. Only beef was graded in the early years. Later the service was extended to include grading of veal, lamb and mutton

and of certain processed meats. It was made available to nearly all markets where demand for the service was large enough for fees received to pay the costs. Grading has been optional except during part of World War II, when it was compulsory for certain kinds and grades of meat. 2/

Table 5 shows the quantity of meat graded by USDA in each year since 1930, and the proportion which gradings of each of 3 meats are of production. For the 3 war years when the largest part of meat production was graded (except pork), the distribution into each grade is shown in table 6. These data are applicable only to the years for which they are recorded and would not necessarily represent exactly the grade distribution for a postwar year. They nevertheless are a rough indication of how large a part of production is encompassed by each of the meat grades as they have been defined.

Meat graded by an official grader is stamped with the official grade by means of a roller stamp that makes a purple ribbon imprint the length of the carcass or wholesale cut. As the stamping fluid is a harmless vegetable compound the grade stamp is seldom trimmed off prior to retailing of meat, and provides a grade identification all the way through merchandising. The imprint for Federally graded meat is always of the designating word. Imprints of letter grades, as A, B, etc., are private grades lacking official standards.

The ribbon grade stamp differs from the round stamp often seen on meat. The round stamp shows that the meat has been inspected and passed as wholesome food, in compliance with regulations for packers engaging in interstate trade established by the Meat Inspection Act of 1906. Federal sanitary inspection is a much older service than grading, having been started in 1891 and extended greatly in 1907. It is financed by Federal funds. 3/

The meat grading service, as well as the market reporting service which utilizes Federal grades of meat animals, is a part of the Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration. Inspection under the Meat Inspection Act is conducted by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Considerable interest is being shown in the expansion of the Federal meat grading service to the selection and certification of certain "custom-made" meats for large-scale users. This service is not new, having been begun before the establishment of official meat standards, and is an adaptation of regular carcass grading performed for meat packers.

2/ On September 18, 1942 Office of Price Administration RMPR 169 required all Choice beef and veal to be graded by a U. S. official grader. Subsequent revisions of the order included all grades of beef and veal. On April 10, 1943, RMPR 239 required grading of all lamb and mutton carcasses. Official grading of meat was not required from June 30, 1946, when the Emergency Price Control and Stabilization Act expired, until September 1, 1946, when price controls were resumed. On October 16, 1946, grading of all meats was permanently restored to a voluntary basis.

3/ There is now a third official stamp, of diamond design, that may be found on meat beginning this summer. It applies to meat of local slaughterers inspected for wholesomeness. (See page 11.)

Table 5.- Quantity of meat graded or certified as complying with specifications, by the USDA, with ratios to Federally inspected and total commercial production, 1930-49 1/

Year	Total meat graded 2/	Beef: Quantity graded	Beef: Percentage of -- Federally inspected production 3/	Beef: Percentage of -- Commercial production 3/ 4/	Veal: Quantity graded	Veal: Percentage of -- Federally inspected production 3/	Veal: Percentage of -- Commercial production 3/ 4/	Lamb and mutton: Quantity graded	Lamb and mutton: Percentage of -- Federally inspected production 3/	Lamb and mutton: Percentage of -- Commercial production 3/ 4/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent
1930	79,364	68,750	1.6	1.2	1,443	0.3	0.2	2,470	0.4	0.3
1931	170,794	159,433	3.7	2.7	1,266	0.3	0.2	4,157	0.6	0.5
1932	223,156	207,437	5.3	3.8	1,356	0.3	0.2	7,610	1.1	0.9
1933	254,933	237,594	5.2	3.9	1,865	0.4	0.2	8,013	1.2	1.0
1934	282,340	261,798	4.4	3.3	1,968	0.2	0.2	9,352	1.4	1.1
1935	319,207	267,775	5.8	4.2	2,772	0.5	0.3	17,538	2.5	2.1
1936	526,396	450,127	8.5	6.3	3,617	0.6	0.4	19,021	2.8	2.3
1937	505,031	408,353	8.7	6.2	5,014	0.7	0.5	23,765	3.5	2.9
1938	716,937	602,809	12.6	9.0	6,180	1.1	0.7	28,015	3.9	3.4
1939	634,049	512,017	10.7	7.5	5,684	1.0	0.6	24,214	3.5	2.9
1940	649,579	578,436	11.7	8.3	6,896	1.2	0.8	24,765	3.5	2.9
1941	1,279,085	789,894	13.8	10.1	9,701	1.6	1.0	32,186	4.3	3.6
1942	3,049,179	1,485,197	23.4	17.3	105,535	15.8	9.9	78,102	8.9	7.7
1943	10,383,040	6,710,715	112.5	80.8	784,869	131.5	72.8	990,772	103.4	91.7
1944	12,348,324	8,355,997	125.6	94.9	1,450,752	156.7	89.1	1,066,480	120.2	5/106.5
1945	12,296,197	9,176,756	126.8	92.4	1,319,006	160.3	85.0	1,024,290	112.2	99.4
1946	9,003,643	6,849,566	121.0	76.0	911,661	142.0	68.6	833,808	98.1	88.1
1947	3,427,132	2,931,463	38.9	29.0	236,525	26.2	15.9	208,870	29.1	26.8
1948	6/2,375,000	2,022,295	31.4	22.8	133,591	16.9	10.1	146,586	22.0	20.1
1949	6/2,550,000	2,279,872	32.6	24.7	104,175	14.0	8.4	107,633	20.1	18.4

1/ Quantities graded based on estimated weight of carcasses and meat products. On September 18, 1942, Office of Price Administration RMPR required all Choice beef and veal to be graded by a U. S. official grader, and on December 16, 1942, the order was revised to include all grades of beef except Cutter and Canner, and of veal except Cull. On April 3, 1943, the order was again revised to include all grades of Canner beef and Cull veal. On April 10, 1943 RMPR 239 required grading of all lamb and mutton carcasses. Official grading was not required in July and August, 1946 when price controls were not in effect. On October 16, 1946, grading of all meats was restored to a voluntary basis.

2/ Includes miscellaneous meats and meat food products in addition to 3 kinds of meat shown, but excludes lard, pork fat and edible tallow.

3/ Virtually all meat graded was produced in Federally inspected plants except during the period in the war when Office of Price Administration regulations required grading of almost all commercially produced meat except pork.

4/ Federally inspected slaughter and other wholesale and retail slaughter, excluding farm slaughter.

5/ Essentially 100 percent. Error due to estimates of carcass weights and/or methods used in building up totals.

6/ Partially estimated, because quantities of lard and other non-meat items not separately reported.

Compiled and computed from data of the Livestock Branch, PMA, and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Table 6.- Percent of Federally graded meat in each grade 1944-46 1/

Year	Prime and Choice	Good	Commercial	Utility	Cutter and Canner
			Beef		
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1944	10.4	28.0	25.3	18.7	17.6
1945	13.9	30.8	26.7	16.6	12.0
1946	15.7	37.0	25.6	13.0	8.1
			Veal		
1944	13.4	34.0	31.0	2/21.6	
1945	14.9	33.8	30.0	21.3	
1946	17.0	34.6	28.3	20.1	
			Lamb		
1944	33.5	40.5	19.4	2/ 6.6	
1945	47.9	35.2	13.1	3.3	
1946	47.7	35.8	13.0	3.5	
			Mutton		
1944	8.0	32.0	27.1	2/32.9	
1945	11.6	34.4	26.2	27.8	
1946	10.9	31.8	24.5	32.8	

1/ Based on estimated weight of carcasses. For explanation of grading regulations during World War II see footnote 1, table 5.
2/ Utility and Cull combined for veal, lamb and mutton, all years.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

In this phase of the work, the grader picks out or certifies either carcasses or cuts that meet certain specifications furnished him describing the specific kind of meat the buyer wants. These specifications may or may not refer to official grades and may be wider or narrower in limits than official grades. Large-scale users often find it expedient to have an impartial, experienced grader pick out meat for purchase, as many of them have neither the time nor technical knowledge for such buying. Work is done by the regular personnel of the Federal meat grading service on the usual fee basis. The fee is often paid by the vendor to whom the contract is awarded.

Many of the specifications are refinements of official market grades. Official grades are so wide that grade buying often will not assure the buyer the exact type or weight of carcass or cut of meat he wants. No change in official grades is anticipated because of this demand for within-grade refinements, since the specifications are selective with every buyer.

Recent developments in livestock and meat grading include: (1) a proposal for the revision of the market grades of slaughter barrows and gilts; (2) proposed changes in the official grades of beef; and (3) adoption of sanitation standards for slaughtering plants in which carcasses are officially graded.

The proposed revision in standards for grades of slaughter barrows and gilts is an attempt to set up a more accurate yardstick of market value for hogs. The practice of grading primarily by weight does not adequately recognize the extent to which finish determines not only the percentage yield but also the quality of pork produced. The proposed grades are Choice No. 1, Choice No. 2, Choice No. 3, Medium and Cull. 4/ The principal changes these introduce are the omission of Good grade, and addition of Choice No. 2 and Choice No. 3. The proposed Choice No. 1 grade includes barrows and gilts which have about the minimum quantity of fat required to produce a Choice quality carcass. The Choice No. 2 and No. 3 grade hogs carry respectively more fat and produce lower yields of lean cuts, but all trimmed cuts are of Choice quality. Although hogs of the proposed Medium and Cull grade hogs produce carcasses that are higher in lean cut yields, such cuts are subject to discount for quality in proportion to their underfinish.

Although the major emphasis in these revisions is on setting up market grades for live hogs, the proposed grades are based on characteristics of pork produced. Trading on the basis of these proposed grades is being conducted at some points to determine its effectiveness as a means of grading slaughter hogs and the correlation between grades of live hogs and the quality of carcass produced. General acceptance of the proposed grades for slaughter barrows and gilts would most probably lead to a revision of market grades for other classes of hogs and for hog carcasses.

The proposals for changing the Federal grades of beef involve both a changing of names and a change of specifications for one or more grades. The suggestions have arisen principally from the fact that such a small percentage of beef is graded Prime as to render the grade ineffective. Too, since beef is no longer further divided by age of animal slaughtered, young tender beef which has little fat or finish has to date been placed in the Commercial grade along with beef from mature animals. The changes proposed are: To make the Prime designation effective by extending its application to beef now graded Choice; to name as Choice the beef now called Good; and to split the present Commercial grade, separating that beef now in the top half of the Commercial grade which is produced from relatively immature animals and making it the new Good grade. Beef from mature cattle formerly called Commercial and beef from immature animals that qualifies only for the bottom half of the present Commercial grade would continue in that grade. Under such a proposal there would be considerable increases in the quantity of meats graded Prime and Choice. Less beef than formerly would fall into Good and Commercial grades.

4/ Proposed Standards for Grades of Slaughter Barrows and Gilts, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, February 15, 1950.

While these proposals usually refer to beef, it is anticipated that changes would be made in the grading of cattle to maintain the historic relationship between grades of slaughter animals and the expected carcass grade.

A regulation effective September 1, 1949 set up minimum sanitation standards for slaughtering plants eligible for official grading of their meat products. Plants not now under Federal inspection must apply for and, pass an inspection before the meat they produce can be given Federal grading. The new rule gives an assurance to the purchaser of meat that U. S. officially graded meat not only has the quality specified by the grade but also has been produced under Federal standards of sanitation. Previously the grade stamp of itself was not a very exact indication of slaughter conditions under which the meat was produced even though, (except for a period during World War II; see footnote, page 16) meat could be graded only if produced under some form of inspection -- Federal, State, or municipal. Since the new regulation does not apply to Federally inspected plants, its effect is to set a uniform minimum standard of sanitation for all non-Federally inspected slaughterers using the grading service, including those not operating under State or local regulations.

This regulation refers only to plants in which carcasses are to be graded and is not intended to supplant sanitation requirements by State or local governments. Nor will the Federal grading stamp replace the carcass stamps certifying Federal, State or local inspection.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Tables 7 to 17 present data revising or extending tables of previous issues of this Situation, particularly the February Statistical Appendix. They are derived mainly from recently published revisions of monthly prices received by farmers by months in 1949 and of commercial meat production in 1948 and 1949; and from the data released May 15 on farm slaughter and meat production in 1949.

Major changes in meat production data are decreases from the original published series on non-Federally inspected commercial production in 1948 and 1949, and from the preliminary estimates of farm meat production in 1949. Because of these changes, the average consumption per person in 1948 and 1949 is each reduced one pound from original estimates, to 145.4 pounds in 1948 and 143.8 pounds in 1949.

Table 17 revises slightly and adds the year 1949 to the table on production and distribution of edible offal published in this Situation for May 1949. Edible offal products such as liver, heart, head meat, tongue, tripe, plucks, sweetbreads and others are not a part of meat production as usually reported but are a significant item in the nation's food supply. Consumption has been estimated at a little more than 10 pounds per person per year.

Data on edible offals have a rather large probable error, because production data are derived by applying a constant percentage factor to meat production and because other data such as stocks and foreign trade do not cover all offal products.

A fuller explanation of the offal data may be found in the May 1949 issue.

Table 7.- Meat production and consumption from total United States slaughter, 1899 to date 1/

Year	Beef: Production	Beef: Consumption Total	Beef: Consumption Per capita	Veal: Production	Veal: Consumption Total	Veal: Consumption Per capita	Lamb and mutton: Production	Lamb and mutton: Consumption Total	Lamb and mutton: Consumption Per capita	Pork (excluding lard): Production	Pork: Consumption Total	Pork: Consumption Per capita	All meats: Production	All meats: Consumption Total	All meats: Consumption Per capita	Lard: Production	Lard: Consumption 2/ Total	Lard: Consumption 2/ Per capita	Population July 1 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.
1899	5,522	5,029	67.2	387	387	5.2	487	486	6.5	6,310	5,371	71.8	12,706	11,273	150.7	1,679	954	12.8	74.8
1900	5,628	5,104	67.1	397	397	5.2	493	492	6.5	6,329	5,476	71.9	12,847	11,469	150.7	1,653	1,002	13.2	76.1
1901	5,814	5,266	67.9	422	422	5.4	548	548	7.0	6,357	5,493	70.8	13,141	11,729	151.1	1,650	997	12.8	77.6
1902	5,649	5,148	65.0	476	476	6.0	564	560	7.1	5,936	5,288	66.7	12,625	11,472	144.8	1,493	956	12.1	79.2
1903	6,240	5,711	70.9	492	492	6.1	563	560	6.9	6,067	5,498	68.2	13,362	12,261	152.1	1,529	952	11.8	80.6
1904	6,176	5,719	69.6	491	491	6.0	538	537	6.5	6,387	5,803	70.6	13,592	12,550	152.7	1,638	1,031	12.5	82.2
1905	6,504	5,973	71.3	556	556	6.6	530	529	6.3	6,629	5,945	71.0	14,219	13,003	155.2	1,742	991	11.8	83.8
1906	6,537	6,087	71.3	598	598	7.0	543	542	6.3	6,793	6,065	71.0	14,471	13,292	155.6	1,735	1,002	11.7	85.4
1907	6,544	6,141	70.6	626	626	7.2	553	551	6.3	7,059	6,443	74.1	14,782	13,761	158.2	1,790	1,146	13.2	87.0
1908	6,662	6,393	72.1	637	637	7.2	559	557	6.3	7,535	6,898	77.7	15,393	14,485	163.3	1,911	1,277	14.4	88.7
1909	5,915	6,713	73.5	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.7	6,557	6,065	66.4	14,740	14,044	153.8	1,628	1,127	12.3	91.3
1910	6,647	6,508	69.8	657	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.8	13,998	13,527	145.1	1,553	1,156	12.4	93.2
1911	6,549	6,426	67.9	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.3	6,961	6,482	68.4	14,869	14,264	150.6	1,747	1,138	12.0	94.7
1912	6,234	6,153	64.0	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	66.2	14,453	13,901	144.7	1,658	1,102	11.5	96.1
1913	6,182	6,157	62.8	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.2	6,979	6,501	66.3	14,475	13,968	142.5	1,653	1,073	10.9	98.0
1914	6,017	6,144	61.5	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.6	14,103	13,877	138.9	1,554	1,090	10.9	99.9
1915	6,075	5,668	56.0	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	66.1	14,886	13,561	133.9	1,689	1,198	11.8	101.3
1916	6,460	6,003	58.4	655	656	6.4	585	595	5.8	8,207	7,037	68.4	15,907	14,291	139.0	1,706	1,228	11.9	102.8
1917	7,239	6,687	64.2	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.5	15,501	13,988	134.2	1,451	1,091	10.5	104.2
1918	7,726	7,167	68.0	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.6	17,341	14,811	140.5	1,899	1,291	12.2	105.4
1919	6,756	6,462	61.0	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.4	16,642	14,596	137.8	1,920	1,174	11.1	105.9
1920	6,306	6,293	58.6	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	63.1	15,334	14,489	135.0	1,958	1,319	12.3	107.3
1921	6,022	6,024	55.1	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.1	7,697	7,029	64.3	15,178	14,539	133.0	2,108	1,217	11.1	109.3
1922	6,588	6,503	58.6	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	65.3	16,138	15,162	136.7	2,302	1,503	13.6	110.9
1923	6,721	6,671	59.2	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.3	9,483	8,310	73.7	17,708	16,492	146.3	2,718	1,643	14.6	112.7
1924	6,877	6,786	59.1	972	977	8.5	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.5	17,595	16,810	146.3	2,660	1,663	14.5	114.9
1925	6,878	6,888	59.1	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.2	8,128	7,734	66.3	16,598	16,220	139.1	2,153	1,453	12.5	116.6
1926	7,089	7,074	59.8	955	959	8.1	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.7	16,649	16,199	137.0	2,206	1,465	12.4	118.2
1927	6,395	6,484	54.1	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.3	8,430	8,058	67.3	16,321	16,048	134.0	2,263	1,541	12.9	119.8
1928	5,771	5,872	48.4	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.5	9,041	8,545	70.5	16,248	15,860	130.8	2,458	1,626	13.4	121.3
1929	5,871	6,048	49.3	761	766	6.3	682	686	5.6	8,833	8,484	69.2	16,147	15,984	130.4	2,461	1,598	13.0	122.6
1930	5,917	6,021	48.6	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.7	8,482	8,246	66.6	16,016	15,885	128.3	2,227	1,584	12.8	123.8
1931	6,009	6,025	48.3	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.1	8,739	8,477	67.9	16,456	16,212	129.9	2,307	1,706	13.7	124.8
1932	5,789	5,830	46.4	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	70.3	16,418	16,359	130.2	2,380	1,814	14.4	125.6
1933 4/	6,440	6,469	51.2	891	891	7.1	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	70.3	17,417	17,094	135.3	2,475	1,772	14.0	126.3
1934 4/	8,345	8,066	63.5	1,246	1,182	9.3	851	798	6.3	8,397	8,141	64.0	18,839	18,187	143.1	2,091	1,648	13.0	127.1
1935 4/	6,608	6,770	52.9	1,023	1,087	8.5	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	48.1	14,427	14,935	116.7	1,276	1,226	9.6	128.0
1936 4/	7,358	7,742	60.1	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.6	7,474	7,061	54.8	16,761	16,727	129.8	1,679	1,449	11.2	128.9
1937	6,798	7,107	54.8	1,108	1,108	8.6	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,185	55.4	15,709	16,257	125.4	1,431	1,361	10.5	129.6
1938	6,908	7,058	54.0	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.8	16,479	16,500	126.2	1,728	1,440	11.0	130.7
1939	7,011	7,159	54.4	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.6	8,660	8,474	64.3	17,534	17,493	132.8	2,037	1,671	12.7	131.7
1940	7,175	7,257	54.7	981	981	7.4	876	873	6.6	10,044	9,701	73.0	19,076	18,812	141.7	2,288	1,924	14.5	132.8
1941	8,082	8,021	60.5	1,036	1,005	7.6	923	901	6.8	9,528	9,007	67.9	19,569	18,934	142.8	2,228	1,879	14.2	132.6
1942	8,843	8,049	60.8	1,151	1,084	8.2	1,042	950	7.2	10,876	8,368	63.3	21,912	18,451	139.5	2,401	1,759	13.3	132.3
1943	8,571	6,860	52.9	1,167	1,059	8.2	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	78.5	24,482	18,921	146.0	2,865	1,820	14.0	129.6
1944	9,112	7,146	55.3	1,738	1,594	12.4	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	79.2	25,178	19,827	153.5	3,054	1,824	14.1	129.2
1945	10,275	7,663	59.0	1,661	1,533	11.8	1,054	943	7.3	10,697	8,598	66.3	23,687	18,757	144.4	2,066	1,622	12.5	129.8
1946	9,373	8,533	61.3	1,440	1,379	9.9	970	925	6.6	11,173	10,530	75.6	22,956	21,367	153.4	2,138	1,669	12.0	139.3
1947	10,428	9,913	69.1	1,599	1,540	10.7	802	765	5.4	10,601	10,018	69.8	23,430	22,236	155.0	2,426	1,928	13.4	143.3
1948	9,079	9,157	62.6	1,412	1,373	9.4	750	735	5.0	10,205	9,993	68.4	21,446	21,258	145.4	2,356	2,008	13.7	146.2
1949 5/	9,448	9,424	63.4	1,322	1,299	8.7	607	611	4.1	10,333	10,042	67.6	21,710	21,376	143.8	2,552	1,908	12.8	148.6

1/ Beginning 1940, data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Beginning 1941, consumption is civilian only. Units are carcass weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.
2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.
3/ Beginning 1909, adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years.
4/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs, data for which can be found in The Livestock and Meat Situation for February, 1949, p. 23.
5/ Preliminary.

Revises table 8 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 8.- Livestock slaughtered and meat and lard produced, by class of slaughter, United States, 1948 and 1949

Year	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Total	Livestock slaughter: Farm	Livestock slaughter: Total	Meat production: Commercial: Federally inspected	Meat production: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Commercial: Total	Meat production: Farm	Meat production: Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle					Beef				
1948	12,994	5,392	18,386	800	19,186	6,433	2,333	8,766	313	9,079
1949	13,222	4,791	18,013	776	18,789	6,998	2,144	9,142	306	9,448
	Calves					Veal				
1948	6,907	4,860	11,767	561	12,328	791	532	1,323	89	1,412
1949	6,449	4,379	10,828	517	11,345	746	494	1,240	82	1,322
	Sheep and lambs					Lamb and mutton				
1948	15,343	1,554	16,897	542	17,439	665	63	728	22	750
1949	12,136	1,240	13,376	496	13,872	536	51	587	20	607
	Hogs					Pork, excluding lard				
1948	47,615	12,054	59,669	12,267	71,936	6,832	1,654	8,486	1,719	10,205
1949	53,032	10,712	63,744	11,549	75,293	7,352	1,393	8,745	1,588	10,333
	Lard production 1/					All meat, excluding lard				
1948	1,680	252	1,932	424	2,356	14,721	4,582	19,303	2,143	21,446
1949	1,923	247	2,170	382	2,552	15,632	4,082	19,714	1,996	21,710

1/ Including rendered pork fat.

Revises table 9 of the Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 9.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals, by months, 1949 to date

Month	Beef cattle		Veal calves		Sheep		Lambs		Hogs		Index number of prices received for meat animals (1910-14=100)	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
January	20.20	19.40	24.70	23.30	9.10	9.64	22.00	21.60	19.60	15.10	323	286
February	18.90	20.40	23.80	24.60	9.28	10.20	21.70	22.80	19.30	16.60	309	306
March	20.70	21.00	24.20	24.40	10.10	11.00	23.80	23.70	20.00	16.10	327	308
April	21.00	21.80	24.40	24.60	10.80	11.10	25.80	23.80	18.30	15.60	324	312
May	21.10		23.70		10.60		25.30		17.90		319	
June	20.90		23.30		9.92		24.30		18.80		323	
July	20.00		22.10		9.27		22.80		18.60		316	
August	19.40		22.00		8.78		21.20		19.40		310	
September	19.70		21.90		8.61		21.60		19.80		319	
October	19.20		21.70		8.88		21.50		17.60		301	
November	18.90		21.70		8.86		21.40		15.60		286	
December	19.00		22.00		9.20		21.00		14.80		280	
Wt. Av. 1/	19.80		22.70		9.29		22.40		18.10		311	

1/ Annual State averages weighted by shipments and local slaughter.

Revises table 16 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 10.- Hog-corn price ratio, Chicago and United States, by months, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 3/
	Chicago, based on prices of barrows and gilts 2/												
1937									11.3	15.6	16.3	14.2	
1938	13.5	14.8	15.9	14.2	14.3	15.5	16.2	16.3	16.9	17.7	16.7	14.3	15.5
1939	14.3	16.3	15.8	14.4	13.3	12.9	13.9	13.8	14.4	14.6	12.2	9.7	13.8
1940	9.2	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.3	7.9	9.7	10.1	10.5	9.9	9.6	10.4	9.4
1941	12.3	12.5	11.7	12.2	12.6	13.4	15.1	15.0	15.5	15.3	14.5	14.2	13.7
1942	14.0	15.4	16.4	17.3	16.5	16.9	16.9	17.5	17.4	19.4	17.3	15.7	16.7
1943 2/	15.4	15.9	15.5	14.7	13.6	13.1	13.0	13.5	14.0	13.8	12.9	11.7	13.9
1944 2/	11.8	11.9	12.1	11.8	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.0	12.5	12.2
1945 2/	12.7	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8
1946 2/	12.8	12.9	12.5	12.5	11.1	10.3	8.4	11.4	8.6	12.7	17.4	17.3	12.1
1947	17.2	18.4	15.8	13.4	12.7	11.1	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.7	10.4	10.2	12.9
1948	10.0	10.0	9.4	8.6	8.8	10.2	13.1	15.2	16.0	17.6	16.6	15.0	12.5
1949	13.8	15.6	15.3	13.6	13.9	15.3	15.3	16.4	15.8	15.7	13.9	11.9	14.2
1950	12.0	13.0	12.3	11.5									
	United States, based on prices received by farmers for all hogs												
1930	11.4	12.3	13.0	11.8	11.6	11.6	10.9	9.5	10.4	10.8	12.3	11.4	11.4
1931	11.7	11.5	12.0	11.9	11.1	10.4	11.4	12.2	12.4	13.7	11.5	10.4	11.7
1932	10.7	10.5	12.0	11.2	9.4	9.2	14.3	13.4	13.3	14.5	15.2	13.8	12.3
1933	13.6	15.1	15.6	11.3	10.1	9.9	7.2	7.7	8.0	10.8	9.0	6.6	10.4
1934	6.7	8.5	8.2	7.3	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.4	7.9	6.7	6.6	6.0	7.0
1935	8.3	8.7	10.2	9.6	9.7	10.4	10.6	13.2	13.6	13.5	15.2	16.6	11.6
1936	17.0	17.3	16.7	16.9	14.5	14.8	11.6	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.5	13.0
1937	9.5	9.1	8.9	7.7	7.9	8.7	9.3	11.5	11.5	16.8	17.2	15.6	11.1
1938	14.7	15.1	16.6	14.9	14.1	15.6	16.2	16.2	17.1	17.3	18.2	16.0	16.0
1939	15.5	16.6	16.1	14.5	13.1	11.8	12.5	11.6	12.2	13.7	12.4	9.9	13.3
1940	9.7	9.1	8.7	8.4	8.5	7.5	9.3	9.4	10.0	9.8	9.9	10.3	9.2
1941	13.3	13.0	12.5	13.2	12.6	13.4	14.8	15.0	15.9	15.6	15.2	15.4	14.2
1942	14.7	15.5	16.0	16.9	16.3	16.3	16.6	16.9	16.4	18.2	17.7	16.5	16.5
1943	16.0	16.2	15.5	14.3	13.4	12.8	12.2	12.6	12.9	13.1	12.3	11.5	13.6
1944	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.3	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.5	11.7	12.2	12.7	12.6	11.6
1945	12.9	13.2	13.1	13.2	13.1	12.7	12.6	12.4	12.6	12.5	12.8	13.0	12.8
1946	12.8	12.8	12.5	12.2	10.6	10.1	8.8	11.6	9.3	13.1	18.1	18.7	12.6
1947	18.1	19.8	17.7	14.7	14.0	11.9	10.9	10.8	11.1	12.2	11.1	10.6	13.6
1948	10.8	11.2	10.2	9.3	9.2	10.6	12.5	14.1	15.4	17.9	18.0	17.0	13.0
1949	15.7	17.2	16.9	15.0	14.7	15.5	14.9	16.4	17.1	16.1	15.3	13.1	15.7
1950	13.1	14.3	13.5	12.4									

1/ Number of bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs. Chicago ratio not available before September 1937.
2/ Corn price is of No. 3 Yellow. Ceiling prices of corn used July-December, 1943, March to September 1944 and January 1945 to June 1946.
3/ Unweighted average of ratios for individual months.

Revises table 21, page 46 of February 1950 Livestock and Meat Situation.

Table 11.- Summary of total meat supply and distribution, United States, by quarter-year, 1948 and 1949

Period	Carcass-weight equivalent: Federally inspected: Supply 1/	Ending stocks	Disappearance 2/: Non-civilian 3/	Civilian	Non-inspected disappearance 4/	Civilian consumption: Total	Per capita 5/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1948							
Jan.-Mar.	4,526	803	128	3,595	1,944	5,539	38.1
Apr.-June	4,287	679	120	3,488	1,732	5,220	35.7
July-Sept.	4,037	326	146	3,565	1,318	4,883	33.4
Oct.-Dec.	4,756	665	206	3,865	1,731	5,616	38.2
Year	15,798	665	600	14,533	6,725	21,258	145.4
1949							
Jan.-Mar.	4,680	743	171	3,766	1,710	5,476	37.1
Apr.-June	4,364	508	146	3,710	1,466	5,176	34.9
July-Sept.	4,297	283	145	3,869	1,275	5,144	34.5
Oct.-Dec.	4,732	625	154	3,953	1,627	5,580	37.3
Year	16,539	625	616	15,298	6,078	21,376	143.8

1/ Production plus imports plus beginning stocks.
2/ Supply minus ending stocks, divided into civilian and non-civilian uses.
3/ Net USDA, Armed Forces, and other war agency purchases from domestic supplies and imports, plus commercial exports and shipments.
4/ Non-inspected wholesale and retail production, and consumption from farm slaughter, considered to be entirely for civilian consumption.
5/ Based on population eating from civilian supplies, including adjustment for under-enumeration of children.

Revises table 30 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 12.- Civilian consumption of meat, total and per capita, by classes, by quarter-year, 1948 and 1949

Year	Beef: Total	Beef: Per capita	Veal: Total	Veal: Per capita	Lamb and mutton: Total	Lamb and mutton: Per capita	Pork, excluding lard: Total	Pork, excluding lard: Per capita	All meat: Total	All meat: Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1948										
Jan.-Mar.	2,357	16.2	324	2.2	194	1.3	2,664	18.4	5,539	38.1
Apr.-June	2,239	15.3	324	2.2	164	1.1	2,493	17.1	5,220	35.7
July-Sept.	2,240	15.3	367	2.5	184	1.3	2,092	14.3	4,883	33.4
Oct.-Dec.	2,321	15.8	358	2.5	193	1.3	2,744	18.6	5,616	38.2
Total	9,157	62.6	1,373	9.4	735	5.0	9,993	68.4	21,258	145.4
1949										
Jan.-Mar.	2,359	16.0	296	2.0	174	1.2	2,647	17.9	5,476	37.1
Apr.-June	2,364	16.0	302	2.0	123	0.8	2,387	16.1	5,176	34.9
July-Sept.	2,434	16.3	352	2.4	155	1.0	2,203	14.8	5,144	34.5
Oct.-Dec.	2,267	15.1	349	2.3	159	1.1	2,805	18.8	5,580	37.3
Total	9,424	63.4	1,299	8.7	611	4.1	10,042	67.6	21,376	143.8

Revises table 31 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 13.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1948

Carcass-weight equivalent

Item	Beef					Veal					Lamb and mutton				
	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Federally inspected															
Supply															
Beginning stocks	169	133	83	74	169	21	10	6	7	21	19	14	8	10	19
Production	1,643	1,470	1,599	1,721	6,433	160	176	228	227	791	171	141	165	188	665
Imports	42	58	115	126	341	1/	1/	2	3	5	0	0	1	2	3
Total	1,854	1,661	1,797	1,921	6,943	181	186	236	237	817	190	155	174	200	687
Distribution															
Non-civilian															
Net armed forces	52	40	53	94	239	4	9	12	15	40	2	1	0	2	5
Commercial exports and shipments	12	10	13	9	44	1	1	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	6
Total	64	50	66	103	283	5	10	13	16	44	4	3	1	3	11
Ending stocks	133	83	74	149	149	10	6	7	21	21	14	8	10	26	26
Civilian residual	1,657	1,528	1,657	1,669	6,511	166	170	216	200	752	172	144	163	171	650
Non-Federally inspected Civilian consumption	700	711	583	652	2,646	158	154	151	158	621	22	20	21	22	85
Total civilian consumption	2,357	2,239	2,240	2,321	9,157	324	324	367	358	1,373	194	164	184	193	735
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	16.2	15.3	15.3	15.8	62.6	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.5	9.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.3	5.0

Continued --

For footnotes see next page.

Table 13.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1948-continued

Carcass-weight equivalent

Item	Pork excluding lard					All meats				
	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year	Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Federally inspected										
Supply										
Beginning stocks	518	646	582	235	518	727	803	679	326	727
Production	1,783	1,639	1,248	2,162	6,832	3,757	3,426	3,240	4,298	14,721
Imports	1/	1/	1/	1	1	42	58	118	132	350
Total	2,301	2,285	1,830	2,398	7,351	4,526	4,287	4,037	4,756	15,798
Distribution										
Non-civilian										
Net armed forces	31	36	50	63	180	89	86	115	174	464
Commercial exports and shipments	24	21	16	21	82	39	34	31	32	136
Total	55	57	66	84	262	128	120	146	206	600
Ending stocks	646	582	235	469	469	803	679	326	665	665
Civilian residual	1,600	1,646	1,529	1,845	6,620	3,595	3,488	3,565	3,885	14,533
Non-Federally inspected										
Civilian consumption	1,064	847	563	899	3,373	1,944	1,732	1,318	1,731	6,725
Total civilian consumption	2,664	2,493	2,092	2,744	9,993	5,539	5,220	4,883	5,616	21,258
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	18.4	17.1	14.3	18.6	68.4	38.1	35.7	33.4	38.2	145.4

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Revises table 27 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1949.

Table 14.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1949

Carcass-weight equivalent

Item	Beef Jan.-Mar.	Beef April-June	Beef July-Sept.	Beef Oct.-Dec.	Beef Year	Veal Jan.-Mar.	Veal April-June	Veal July-Sept.	Veal Oct.-Dec.	Veal Year	Lamb and mutton Jan.-Mar.	Lamb and mutton April-June	Lamb and mutton July-Sept.	Lamb and mutton Oct.-Dec.	Lamb and mutton Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Federally inspected															
Supply															
Beginning stocks	149	127	74	63	149	21	16	7	8	21	26	14	7	7	26
Production	1,739	1,709	1,843	1,707	6,998	158	166	211	211	746	146	102	140	148	536
Imports	52	39	78	59	228	1	1	2	3	7	1/	1/	1	3	4
Total	1,940	1,875	1,995	1,829	7,375	180	183	220	222	774	172	116	148	158	566
Distribution															
Non-civilian															
Net armed forces	78	50	69	56	253	6	6	9	12	33	3	1	2	4	10
Commercial exports and shipments	5	7	8	7	27	1/	1/	1	1	2	1/	1/	1	1	2
Total	83	57	77	63	280	6	6	10	13	35	3	1	3	5	12
Ending stocks	127	74	63	121	121	16	7	8	16	16	14	7	7	14	14
Civilian residual	1,730	1,744	1,855	1,645	6,974	158	170	202	193	723	155	108	138	139	540
Non-Federally inspected Civilian consumption	629	620	579	622	2,450	138	132	150	156	576	19	15	17	20	71
Total civilian consumption	2,359	2,364	2,434	2,267	9,424	296	302	352	349	1,299	174	123	155	159	611
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	16.0	16.0	16.3	15.1	63.4	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.3	8.7	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.1	4.1

Continued --

For footnotes see next page.

Table 14.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1949-continued

Carcass-weight equivalent

Item	Pork excluding lard: Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year	All meats: Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Federally inspected										
Supply										
Beginning stocks	469	586	420	205	469	665	743	508	283	665
Production	1,919	1,603	1,513	2,317	7,352	3,962	3,580	3,707	4,383	15,632
Imports	1/	1	1	1	3	53	41	82	66	242
Total	2,388	2,190	1,934	2,523	7,824	4,680	4,364	4,297	4,732	16,539
Distribution										
Non-civilian										
Net USDA purchases	---	2/ 4	---	---	4	---	2/ 4	---	---	4
Net armed forces	59	45	26	51	181	146	102	106	123	477
Commercial exports and shipments	20	33	29	22	104	25	40	39	31	135
Total	79	82	55	73	289	171	146	145	154	616
Ending stocks	586	420	205	474	474	743	508	283	625	625
Civilian residual	1,723	1,638	1,674	1,976	7,061	3,766	3,710	3,869	3,953	15,298
Non-Federally inspected										
Civilian consumption	924	699	529	829	2,981	1,710	1,466	1,275	1,627	6,078
Total civilian consumption	2,647	2,337	2,203	2,805	10,042	5,476	5,176	5,144	5,580	21,376
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	17.9	16.1	14.8	18.8	67.6	37.1	34.9	34.5	37.3	143.8

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
2/ Special purchase by USDA for IRO.

Revises table 32 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 15.- Livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-year, 1948

Period and item	Cattle: Number	Cattle: Beef produced: Per head	Cattle: Beef produced: Total	Calves: Number	Calves: Veal produced: Per head	Calves: Veal produced: Total	Sheep and lambs: Number	Sheep and lambs: Lamb & mutton produced: Per head	Sheep and lambs: Lamb & mutton produced: Total	Hogs: Number	Hogs: Pork produced 1/: Per head	Hogs: Pork produced 1/: Total	Total meat produced
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
January-March													
Federally inspected	3,275	504	1,643	1,664	97	160	3,730	46	171	12,543	142	1,783	3,757
Other wholesale and retail	1,375	438	602	1,298	101	131	337	40	14	3,708	134	497	1,244
April-June													
Federally inspected	2,885	512	1,470	1,679	105	176	3,285	43	141	11,140	147	1,639	3,426
Other wholesale and retail	1,388	442	613	1,329	106	141	394	41	16	3,020	138	417	1,187
July-September													
Federally inspected	3,310	486	1,599	1,745	131	228	3,923	42	165	8,320	150	1,248	3,240
Other wholesale and retail	1,322	424	560	1,137	119	135	432	40	18	2,192	139	305	1,018
October-December													
Federally inspected	3,524	491	1,721	1,819	125	227	4,405	43	188	15,612	139	2,162	4,298
Other wholesale and retail	1,307	427	558	1,096	114	125	391	39	15	3,134	139	435	1,133
Year													
Federally inspected	12,994	498	6,433	6,907	115	791	15,343	44	665	47,615	144	6,832	14,721
Other wholesale and retail	5,392	433	2,333	4,860	109	532	1,554	41	63	12,054	137	1,654	4,582
Farm	800	391	313	561	158	89	542	40	22	12,267	140	1,719	2,143
Total	19,186	475	9,079	12,328	115	1,412	17,439	43	750	71,936	142	10,205	21,446

1/ Excludes lard.

Revises table 21 of Livestock and Meat Situation for May 1949.

Table 16.- Livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-year, 1949

Period and item	Cattle: Number	Cattle: Beef produced: Per head	Cattle: Beef produced: Total	Calves: Number	Calves: Veal produced: Per head	Calves: Veal produced: Total	Sheep and lambs: Number	Sheep and lambs: Lamb & mutton produced: Per head	Sheep and lambs: Lamb & mutton produced: Total	Hogs: Number	Hogs: Pork produced 1/: Per head	Hogs: Pork produced 1/: Total	Total meat pro-duced
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
January-March													
Federally inspected	3,222	542	1,739	1,579	102	158	3,229	45	146	13,771	140	1,919	3,962
Other wholesale and retail	1,168	455	531	1,108	102	115	274	44	12	3,060	131	400	1,056
April-June													
Federally inspected	3,116	551	1,709	1,605	104	166	2,335	44	102	11,360	141	1,603	3,580
Other wholesale and retail	1,149	457	525	1,090	109	119	298	40	12	2,321	130	302	958
July-September													
Federally inspected	3,547	522	1,843	1,602	132	211	3,282	43	140	10,461	145	1,513	3,707
Other wholesale and retail	1,265	440	556	1,096	124	136	353	40	14	2,228	130	291	997
October-December													
Federally inspected	3,337	515	1,707	1,663	127	211	3,290	45	148	17,440	133	2,317	4,383
Other wholesale and retail	1,209	440	532	1,085	116	126	315	41	13	3,103	129	400	1,071
Year													
Federally inspected	13,222	552	6,998	6,449	116	746	12,136	44	536	53,032	139	7,352	15,632
Other wholesale and retail	4,791	448	2,144	4,379	113	494	1,240	41	51	10,712	130	1,393	4,082
Farm	776	394	306	517	159	82	496	40	20	11,549	137	1,588	1,996
Total	18,789	505	9,448	11,345	117	1,322	13,872	44	607	75,293	137	10,333	21,710

1/ Excludes lard.

Revises table 33 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 17.- Edible offals: Supply and distribution, United States, by calendar years, 1934 to date

Year	Supply: Total production 1/	Supply: Beginning commercial stocks 2/	Supply: Imports	Total supply	Distribution: Ending stocks 2/	Distribution: Commercial exports and shipments	Domestic disappearance: Military	Domestic disappearance: Civilian	Domestic disappearance: Civilian per capita 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1934	1,298	65	4/	1,363	126	28	---	1,209	9.5
1935	994	126	1	1,121	74	17	---	1,030	8.0
1936	1,152	74	4/	1,226	132	18	---	1,076	8.3
1937	1,083	132	1	1,216	67	14	---	1,135	8.8
1938	1,130	67	4/	1,197	72	19	---	1,106	8.5
1939	1,200	72	1	1,273	95	19	---	1,159	8.8
1940	1,303	95	2	1,400	102	11	---	1,287	9.7
1941	1,338	102	4	1,444	105	8	---	1,331	10.0
1942	1,498	105	2	1,605	86	11	4/	1,508	11.4
1943	1,669	86	4/	1,755	137	22	2	1,594	12.3
1944	1,740	5/97	4/	1,837	37	68	2	1,730	13.4
1945	1,637	37	4/	1,674	41	3	5	1,627	12.5
1946	1,580	41	4/	1,621	56	1	4/	1,564	11.2
1947	1,621	56	4/	1,677	71	9	4/	1,597	11.1
1948	1,481	71	5	1,557	58	1	4/	1,498	10.2
1949	1,498	58	9	1,565	62	2	4/	1,501	10.1

1/ Production of offals as percentage of dressed weight of meat production, including farm: Beef 6.7, Veal 10.7, Lamb and Mutton 5.1, Pork excluding lard 6.7 percent.
2/ Trimmings included prior to July 1, 1944; excluded beginning that date.
3/ Calculated from number of persons eating out of civilian supplies July 1 adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years of age.
4/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
5/ Adjusted by 40 million pounds as estimated allowance for trimmings, which were reported in stocks prior to July 1, 1944.

Revises and brings to date table 7 of Livestock and Meat Situation for May, 1949. Series on commercial exports and shipments, 1934 to date, was revised considerably.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-April Av. 1949	January-April Av. 1950	1949 April	1950 March	1950 April	1950 May
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	26.68	33.67	25.81	32.24	30.94	
Good	do.	24.07	27.58	24.37	27.33	27.66	
Medium	do.	22.09	24.50	22.87	24.51	25.21	
Common	do.	20.33	21.78	21.22	22.13	22.99	
All grades	do.	23.74	26.10	24.20	25.90	26.94	
Omaha, all grades	do.	22.66	24.70	23.14	24.74	25.62	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	22.33	24.85	23.10	24.75	26.04	
Cows, Chicago							
Good	do.	18.92	19.59	19.88	20.60	21.00	
Common	do.	2/16.14	16.84	2/16.47	17.42	17.85	
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/15.21	14.61	3/15.34	14.84	15.27	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	29.80	30.18	27.58	29.39	29.46	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	22.86	24.54	23.66	25.32	25.79	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	20.20	20.65	21.00	21.00	21.80	23.20
Veal calves	do.	24.28	24.22	24.40	24.40	24.60	25.70
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	20.69	16.44	18.91	16.17	15.80	
180-200 pounds	do.	20.84	16.75	19.13	16.59	16.32	
200-220 pounds	do.	20.73	16.80	19.14	16.72	16.52	
220-240 pounds	do.	20.35	16.60	19.02	16.70	16.52	
240-270 pounds	do.	19.76	16.26	18.72	16.51	16.41	
270-300 pounds	do.	19.05	15.90	18.14	16.21	16.20	
All weights	do.	19.65	16.28	18.60	16.41	16.33	
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.53	16.26	18.38	16.38	16.25	
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.24	14.07	15.34	14.52	14.67	
Price received by farmers	do.	19.30	15.85	18.30	16.10	15.60	18.50
Hog-corn price ratio 5/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.6	12.2	13.6	12.3	11.5	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	16.2	13.3	15.0	13.5	12.4	13.8
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	12.27	13.11	13.70	13.99	13.18	
Price received by farmers	do.	9.82	10.48	10.80	11.00	11.10	11.00
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.80	25.48	29.39	26.88	26.54	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	---	6/25.12	---	26.59	---	
Price received by farmers	do.	23.32	22.98	25.80	23.70	23.80	24.60
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers							
(1910-14=100)		321	303	324	308	312	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	38.55	43.02	39.62	42.12	43.82	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	50.35	7/45.50	57.97	---	---	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.98	17.94	20.85	17.90	17.98	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.18	24.63	28.62	24.57	24.68	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.45	20.95	24.92	21.20	20.78	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.68	29.37	34.94	29.73	29.14	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	64.0	67.4	64.1	67.6	68.1	
Lamb	do.	64.3	65.4	75.4	65.8	69.2	
Pork, including lard	do.	41.6	36.4	41.7	37.1	36.6	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		220.5	213.3	224.9	213.6	214.9	
Retail (1935-39=100)		222.9	221.9	228.5	224.5	224.8	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Average of prices for January, February and March.
7/ Price of January only, since these prices given only for heavier weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-April 1949	January-April 1950	1949 April	1950 March	1950 April	1950 May
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		134	135	125	137	122	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	392	514	100	141	128	
Sheep and lambs	do.	349	425	63	101	98	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	4,218	4,082	996	1,082	959	
Calves	do.	2,141	1,988	562	586	494	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,905	3,713	676	939	834	
Hogs	do.	17,665	19,371	3,894	5,020	4,316	
Percentage sows	Percent	9	10	10	9	11	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	991	995	996	995	991	
Calves	do.	178	181	170	170	181	
Sheep and lambs	do.	98	102	97	103	100	
Hogs	do.	249	240	242	234	242	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	546	546	558	547	551	
Veal, per head	do.	100	102	96	96	102	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	47	48	47	49	48	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	134	136	133	133	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	57	56	
Lard, per head	do.	38	35	35	34	35	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	15	14	15	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,291	2,216	552	589	526	
Veal	do.	212	200	54	55	50	
Lamb and mutton	do.	177	180	31	46	40	
Pork 2/	do.	2,447	2,598	528	665	574	
Lard	do.	666	684	137	168	151	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	5,751	5,603	1,361	1,479	1,323	
Calves	do.	3,617	3,405	930	989	834	
Sheep and lambs	do.	4,267	4,048	764	1,020	922	
Hogs	do.	21,565	23,512	4,734	6,060	5,221	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,991	2,918	721	772	694	
Veal	do.	362	350	91	96	87	
Lamb and mutton	do.	192	195	34	50	44	
Pork 2/	do.	2,957	3,121	636	794	687	
Lard	do.	755	786	157	196	174	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	127	113	100	90
Veal	do.	---	---	16	11	10	8
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	14	13	11	8
Pork	do.	---	---	586	573	549	539
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	861	816	778	748

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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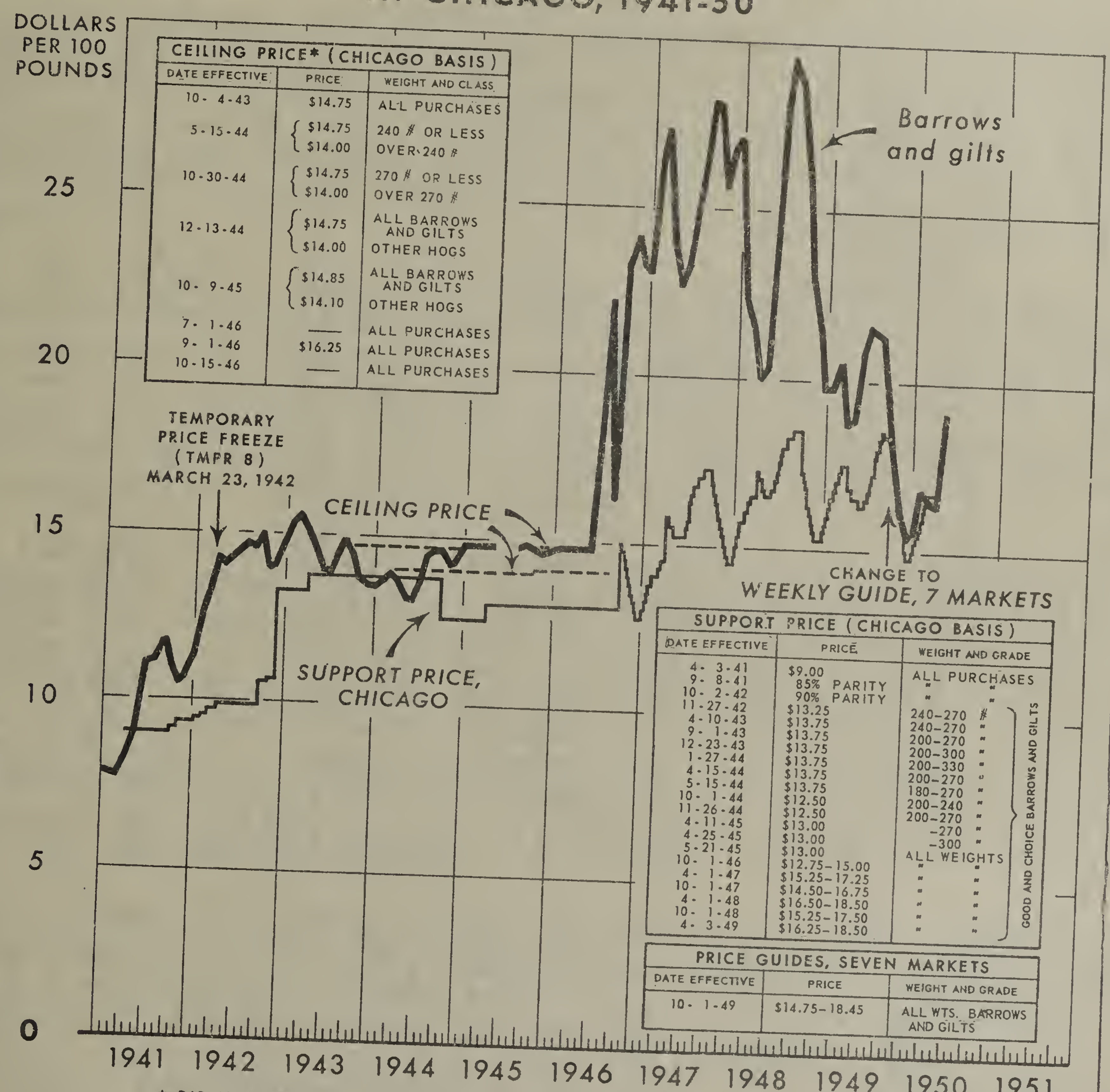
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

FOR RELEASE
JULY 7, A. M.

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-40 BAE JUNE 1950

PRICES OF BARROWS AND GILTS PURCHASED AT CHICAGO, 1941-50



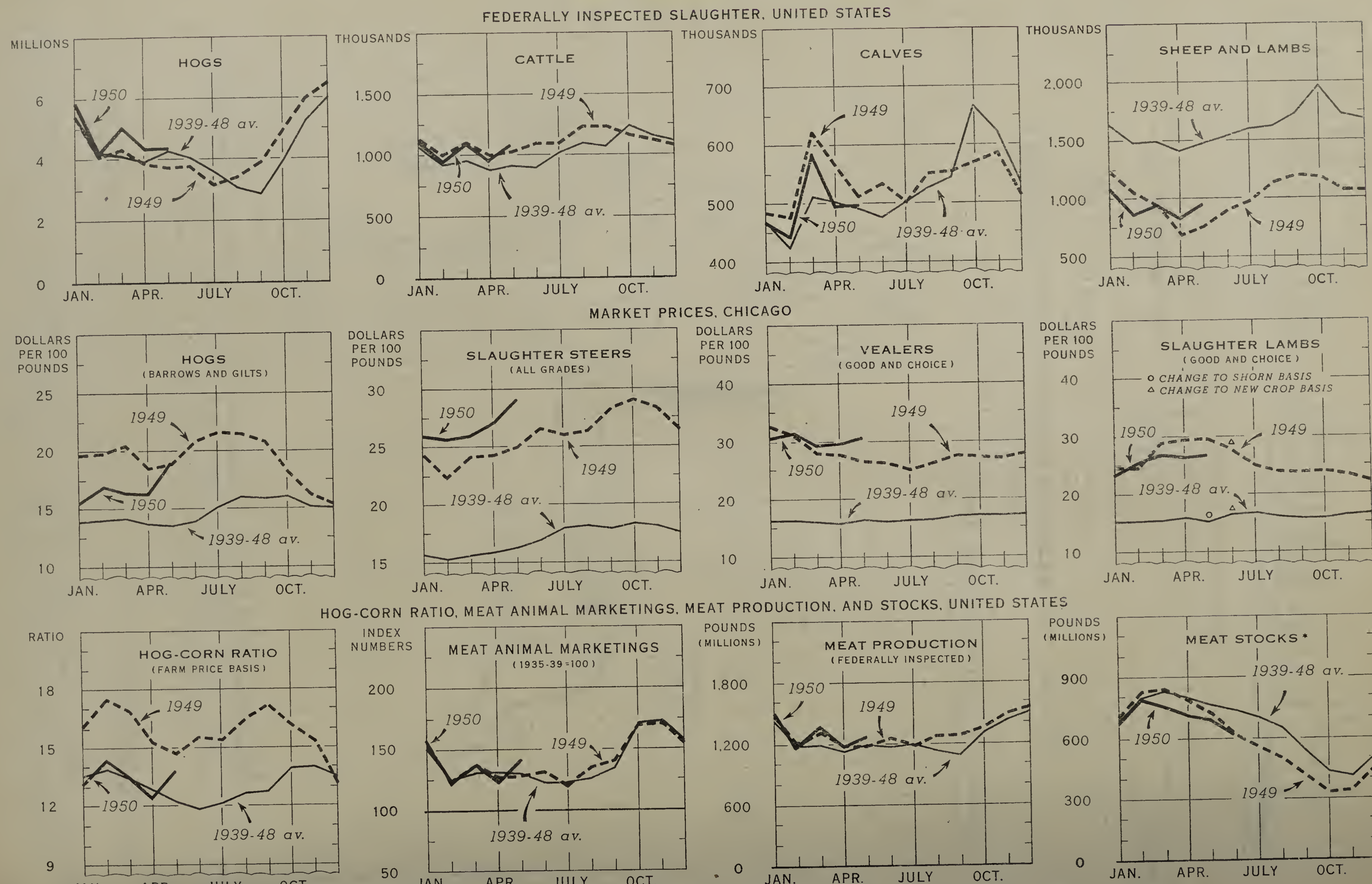
* DID NOT APPLY TO HOGS SOLD FOR FEEDING OVER 30 DAYS, FOR BREEDING TO SERUM MANUFACTURERS, OR BY NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 43313-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Along with prices of most meat animals, prices of hogs advanced in April and May. Chicago prices of barrows and gilts at $19.26 in mid-June were $3.32 per 100 pounds higher than in early April and were within $1.06 of June 1949 prices.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, June 26, 1950

SUMMARY

About an average seasonal increase in prices of meat animals and meats seems likely this summer. Peak prices may occur in late summer or early fall. Prices of cattle are now higher than last year and are expected to continue higher through the summer. Prices of hogs levelled off in June after rising rapidly from mid-April through May and are not likely to top those of last summer. Probable exceptions to the general uptrend this summer are sheep and lambs and lower grades of cattle, prices for which are likely to decline seasonally.

Meat production this summer is expected to be about equal to that of last summer. About as many barrows and gilts as a year earlier, and a few more sows, are expected to be slaughtered. Marketings of cattle from feedlots may not be as large this summer as last, preventing beef supplies from equalling last year until late in the season. More cattle were on feed this winter and spring than last, but they were scheduled for later marketing.

Meat production during the last two-and one-half years has about kept pace with the population growth. Hence there has been little change in annual consumption per person. In the first quarter, consumption per person was about equal to that a year earlier. Second-and third-quarter consumption may also total about the same as in 1949. In the fourth quarter, there may be more beef and more pork than a year earlier, and total meat consumption per person may be somewhat larger.

Additional beef late this year will come mainly from slaughter of grain-fed cattle, numbers of which may not decline as much as they did in late 1949. The extra quantity of pork will result from the larger 1950 spring pig crop. The crop of 60 million pigs this spring was 3 percent larger than the 1949 spring crop and a new peacetime record. In the last two years, much of the increase in numbers of pigs was offset by a reduction in slaughter weights of hogs. Weights next fall and winter may be about as heavy as this past year. Thus the increase in pigs saved will probably be reflected in an equivalent increase in total pork production, and a small increase in production per person.

Five percent more sows farrowed this spring than last. This increase was less than the 7 percent gain indicated last December. A weakness in hog prices during the winter, together with rising prices of corn, probably accounts for the smaller increase than had been intended.

Litters were farrowed slightly earlier, on the average, this spring than in 1949.

Farmers' reports on June 1 indicated that they intended to have 5 percent more sows farrow fall pigs this year than last. With litters of average size, the fall pig crop would be about 39 million, or 5 percent more than last year. The increase would be the fourth in succession, and the 1950 fall crop would be 28 percent larger than the 1946 crop of 30.5 million.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Spring Pig Crop Up 3 Percent

The 1950 spring pig crop of 60 million was 3 percent larger than the 1949 crop and a new peacetime record.

Five percent more sows farrowed this spring than last. The size of litter was down slightly, averaging 6.31 compared with the near record of 6.45 pigs last spring.

Last December, farmers' reports indicated that they intended to increase the number of sows to farrow by 7 percent. In failing to carry out their intentions fully, they probably were influenced by the weakness in prices of hogs during the winter. Prices increased less than usual from December to March, holding close to the support level and averaging $3.00 to $4.00 per 100 pounds below a year earlier. Meanwhile, the price of corn was increasing and the hog-corn price ratio dropped to only a little above average. Not until the middle of April did hog prices strengthen appreciably.

More Litters Born in February and March

Farrowing dates show a further shift to earlier farrowings this spring. The proportion of farrowings in December and January was slightly smaller than last year. However, the percentage farrowed in February increased to 12.0, the largest proportion on record for that month. Much of the shift to earlier farrowings took place in the Corn Belt. Farrowings through March comprised 45.0 percent of the total for these States compared with 42.6 percent for the same period last year.

Compared with 1937-41 too, the 1950 distribution by months shows more concentration of farrowings just before the center of the spring season. The percentage of spring farrowings coming in February is up to 12.0 compared with 10.5 percent prewar, and the percentage in March is 30.5 percent, up from 26.5 percent prewar. 50.1 percent of sows farrowing this spring farrowed in the first 4 months of the season as compared with 46.3 percent prewar.

Fall Crop to be Increased 5 Percent

Farmers' intentions on June 1 were for 5 percent more sows to farrow this fall than last. At an average of 6.5 pigs per litter, 39 million pigs would be saved. This number would be 5 percent more than were saved last

Table 1.- Sows farrowing, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States and by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1942-50

SPRING PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
				Sows farrowing			
1937-41 av.	140	2,016	3,417	580	1,069	512	7,534
1942	161	2,467	4,674	665	1,514	413	9,684
1943	210	2,947	5,997	818	1,686	516	12,174
1944	198	2,416	4,301	772	1,227	332	9,246
1945	154	2,129	4,111	620	1,024	260	8,298
1946	144	2,169	3,876	639	1,027	254	8,109
1947	157	2,313	4,266	670	1,003	243	8,652
1948	148	2,113	3,761	653	1,019	270	7,964
1949	161	2,412	4,395	688	1,125	273	9,054
1950 1/	140	2,613	4,668	717	1,136	245	9,518
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	686	12,961	21,472	3,377	6,157	1,948	46,801
1942	952	16,378	29,523	3,914	7,781	2,545	61,093
1943	1,304	18,252	36,699	4,720	9,907	3,141	74,223
1944	1,316	15,193	25,568	4,482	7,162	2,033	55,754
1945	1,000	14,176	25,756	3,635	6,003	1,619	52,189
1946	984	14,559	25,324	3,779	6,130	1,616	52,392
1947	1,019	14,278	26,031	3,956	5,992	1,526	52,802
1948	985	14,066	24,348	3,969	6,212	1,686	51,266
1949	1,092	16,034	28,340	4,215	6,996	1,749	58,426
1950 1/	904	16,553	29,547	4,478	7,058	1,539	60,079
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.32	6.45	6.30	5.82	5.76	6.24	6.22
1942	6.31	6.64	6.32	5.89	5.92	6.17	6.31
1943	6.21	6.19	6.15	5.77	5.88	6.09	6.10
1944	6.63	6.29	5.94	5.81	5.84	6.12	6.03
1945	6.52	6.66	6.27	5.87	5.86	6.22	6.29
1946	6.79	6.71	6.53	5.91	5.97	6.35	6.46
1947	6.49	6.17	6.10	5.90	5.97	6.27	6.10
1948	6.63	6.66	6.47	6.08	6.10	6.24	6.44
1949	6.80	6.65	6.45	6.13	6.22	6.39	6.45
1950 1/	6.46	6.33	6.33	6.25	6.22	6.27	6.31

FALL PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
				Sows farrowing			
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1937-41 av.	127	1,471	1,480	507	963	254	4,802
1942	157	1,994	2,405	636	1,284	364	6,840
1943	220	2,247	2,463	771	1,454	410	7,565
1944	135	1,536	1,544	552	914	201	4,882
1945	139	1,705	1,848	558	976	200	5,426
1946	120	1,515	1,446	589	883	160	4,713
1947	119	1,566	1,534	598	908	182	4,907
1948	125	1,631	1,704	575	923	200	5,158
1949	122	1,849	1,968	605	981	201	5,726
1950 2/	106	1,966	2,194	605	966	180	6,017
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	844	9,756	9,400	3,051	5,769	1,608	30,428
1942	1,039	13,132	15,362	3,901	8,054	2,322	43,810
1943	1,445	14,489	15,469	4,696	8,917	2,568	47,584
1944	909	10,164	9,782	3,276	5,500	1,274	30,906
1945	919	11,224	11,761	3,401	6,007	1,281	34,593
1946	808	10,194	9,574	3,597	5,382	993	30,548
1947	822	10,258	9,760	3,668	5,668	1,169	31,345
1948	864	11,066	11,280	3,591	5,834	1,286	33,921
1949	827	12,250	12,871	3,759	6,242	1,313	37,262
1950 2/							39,000
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.63	6.63	6.34	6.02	5.99	6.31	6.33
1942	6.69	6.59	6.39	6.13	6.27	6.38	6.40
1943	6.56	6.45	6.28	6.09	6.13	6.26	6.29
1944	6.71	6.62	6.35	5.94	6.02	6.35	6.33
1945	6.63	6.58	6.36	6.10	6.15	6.41	6.38
1946	6.76	6.73	6.62	6.11	6.10	6.23	6.48
1947	6.88	6.55	6.36	6.13	6.24	6.45	6.39
1948	6.90	6.78	6.62	6.25	6.32	6.42	6.58
1949	6.80	6.63	6.54	6.22	6.36	6.54	6.51
1950 2/							6.50

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of June 1, 1950 and average number of pigs per litter (1939-48) used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

fall. An increase in the fall crop this year may be the fourth in succession since the fall of 1946. The indicated 1950 fall crop would be 28 percent larger than the 30.5 million crop in the fall of 1946.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing, spring season, and percentage distribution by months, United States, average 1937-41 and annual 1946-50

Year	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	Total
	Number of sows farrowing						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	290	409	791	1,999	2,605	1,440	7,534
1946	296	358	703	2,136	2,962	1,654	8,109
1947	301	393	914	2,475	3,063	1,506	8,652
1948	263	367	762	2,150	2,874	1,548	7,964
1949	303	467	988	2,623	3,090	1,583	9,054
1950	273	451	1,444	2,898	3,168	1,584	9,518
	Percentage of total sows farrowing						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	3.9	5.4	10.5	26.5	34.6	19.1	100.0
1946	3.7	4.4	8.7	26.3	36.5	20.4	100.0
1947	3.5	4.5	10.6	28.6	35.4	17.4	100.0
1948	3.3	4.6	9.6	27.0	36.1	19.4	100.0
1949	3.3	5.2	10.9	29.0	34.1	17.5	100.0
1950	2.9	4.7	12.0	30.5	33.3	16.6	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.

The rising prices of hogs since mid-April have improved the income prospects for hog farmers and have doubtlessly been a factor in farmers' plans for more fall pigs. Prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago increased $3.20 per 100 pounds from mid-April to mid-June, and at the latter date were within $1.06 of the price a year earlier.

Meat Production, Consumption to Date at About 1949 Level

Commercial meat production to date in 1950 has been larger than a year earlier by a small margin -- just about the same proportion as the increase in population. Production in the first quarter was 1 percent larger than the first quarter 1949 production, and the increase in the second quarter over the same 1949 period appears to be around 3 percent.

Comparisons for 1950 are in keeping with trends of the last 3 years. Beginning with 1948, meat production has on the whole increased at about the same rate as the population. Annual consumption per capita has been steady. In 1948, it was 145 pounds and in 1949, 144 pounds.

This slowly increasing production and stable consumption has occurred at a time of very large corn crops and sizable increases in the numbers of pigs raised and of cattle on feed. Increasing quantities of grain have gone into dairy and poultry production in the last two years. Support programs have resulted in an accumulation of corn and other feed grains in Government hands or under Government loan. Although more livestock have been raised and fed, the increased numbers have been partly offset by lighter average slaughter weights. Moreover, an increase in numbers of cattle on farms has been possible only through some reduction in slaughter of cattle and calves. Cattle and calf numbers increased 172 thousand in 1948 and 2.0 million in 1949, and a further increase is expected in 1950.

Slaughter weights of steers and barrows and gilts are lighter this year than last. In 1949, average market weights for slaughter steers in the Corn Belt were exceptionally high, and were a factor in providing a rather large quantity of beef despite the increased number of cattle withheld for herd expansion. This year steers have not been as highly finished as a year ago and slaughter weights, although high, have been lighter than those of 1949.

Current weights of barrows and gilts are especially low in comparison with the war and postwar years through 1948. Because of low lard prices and seasonal price discounts for heavy hogs during much of the year, and a seasonal price adjustment was incorporated in the schedule of support prices, market weights became especially light in the early fall of 1949. Last August, the Chicago average for barrows and gilts was below the 1938-41 average for the month. In March 1950, a weakness in prices and uncertainty as to continuation of price supports caused weights again to drop below the prewar average. Market weights of barrows and gilts at Chicago averaged 250 pounds in May. That weight was 21 pounds or 8 percent below the 271 pounds in May 1948. A reduction this large substantially restricts the increase in total pork production that would accrue from increased hog numbers. However, output of lean pork products is reduced less with lighter weights than is output of lard and fat cuts.

Meat Production This Summer May be About Equal to 1949

Prospects are for meat supplies this summer to be about the same as those a year ago. On June 1, 3 percent more hogs over 6 months of age than a year ago were reported on farms. More of the fall pig crop had been sold by that date this year than last. But 5 percent more sows were on farms for spring farrowing this year and the number to be marketed this summer is slightly larger than a year ago. Slaughter of hogs from the spring pig crop may begin very early again this year. Based on these indications, pork production during the summer is not expected to differ much from a year earlier.

Through April, cattle slaughter was smaller than last year. In May, Federally inspected slaughter exceeded that in May 1949. More cattle were grain-fed last winter than in the previous winter, but they were put on feed at lighter weights and scheduled for later slaughtering dates. Consequently, cattle slaughter may not increase as fast this summer as last, and may not regain its 1949 level until late in the season.

Table 3.- Average weight of barrows and gilts and slaughter steers at Chicago by months, prewar average, 1947 to date

Month	Steers, all grades out of first hands for slaughter					Barrows and gilts				
	1937-41 av.	1947	1948	1949	1950	1938-41 av.	1947	1948	1949	1950
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
January	1,083	998	1,027	1,103	1,082	237	248	255	255	247
February	1,071	993	1,063	1,092	1,081	243	256	260	254	250
March	1,055	988	1,063	1,096	1,061	249	263	267	256	244
April	1,036	991	1,044	1,083	1,057	247	261	267	250	246
May	1,035	988	1,047	1,090	1,049	244	267	271	257	250
June	1,046	982	1,059	1,079	1/ 1,070	240	263	275	250	1/ 243
July	1,049	990	1,062	1,071		238	261	253	242	
August	1,046	995	1,048	1,059		236	259	239	231	
September	1,052	993	1,052	1,045		224	239	232	215	
October	1,071	1,042	1,068	1,033		221	225	226	222	
November	1,083	1,043	1,097	1,067		225	231	234	232	
December	1,100	1,048	1,093	1,078		232	240	245	239	
Year	1,060	1,001	1,060	1,074		236	249	254	242	

1/ Average of first 3 weeks.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

With meat production likely to be near that of last summer, consumption per person in the July-September quarter may be about the same as the 34.5 pounds consumed in that quarter last year.

More Meat in Fourth Quarter

The fourth quarter of this year may bring the first substantial increase in meat supplies over last year. Beef production may be up from the rather small production in the fourth quarter of 1949. The increase will come from fed cattle, slaughter supplies of which are not likely to drop off as much this fall as they did last fall. Slaughter of grass cattle probably will not increase over last fall, because of continued interest in building up cattle herds.

The larger pig crop of this spring will be reflected in more hogs slaughtered and more pork produced this fall and winter than last. It seems unlikely that slaughter weights at that time will average appreciably lower than last year's, which in early fall months dipped below prewar averages. Weights are most likely to stay up if prices remain at or above those received in 1949 and if discounts for heavy weights are not exceptionally wide.

Table 4.- Number of hogs 6 months old and over on farms June 1, 1935-50

Year	North Central States	Other States	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1935	10,729	8,499	19,228
1936	11,969	8,805	20,774
1937	10,635	9,518	20,153
1938	10,843	9,350	20,193
1939	13,460	10,854	24,314
1940	15,518	11,650	27,168
1941	14,787	9,860	24,647
1942	17,835	11,006	28,841
1943	23,017	13,240	36,257
1944	20,866	13,634	34,500
1945	16,147	9,419	25,566
1946	14,107	8,852	22,959
1947	15,527	8,693	24,220
1948	14,650	9,096	23,746
1949	14,175	8,641	22,816
1950 1/	14,968	8,506	23,474

1/ Preliminary.

Prices Continue Higher in June; Further Increases Likely

Prices of most meat animals and meats leveled off in early June after rising fast from mid-April through May. A seasonal price increase similar to that which occurs most years seems likely for this summer. Meat supplies in prospect do not appear large enough to prevent a further increase above the high June level, so long as personal incomes remain very large.

Prices of all classes of meat animals except wooled slaughter lambs and slaughter ewes edged upward through May, then steadied the first part of June. Prices for all market classes of cattle were higher this June than in June 1949, but for most classes were lower than in June 1948. However, prices of Common slaughter steers, stocker and feeder steers, and vealers were higher this June than 2 years earlier (table 5).

Prices of hogs in the first 3 weeks of June were almost as high as last June but lower than in June 1948. Prices of lambs averaged slightly above 1949 but below 1948 prices for the month. Ewe prices, which declined almost $5.00 per 100 pounds beginning in early April, averaged about the same this June as last. Price changes for ewes during the spring reflect partly the increasing proportion of ewes that are marketed shorn.

Table 5.- Market prices for selected classes of meat animals, and composite retail prices of meats at New York City, June 1948-50

Item	June, 1950 (average for first 3 weeks)	June 1949	June 1948	Percent change from June 1949	Percent change from June 1948
	Price per 100 pounds				
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.		
Meat animals					
Slaughter steers, Chicago					
Choice and Prime	31.42	27.51	36.79	⁄14	-15
Good	30.01	26.37	34.85	⁄14	-14
Medium	27.96	24.61	30.97	⁄14	-10
Common	25.13	21.26	23.91	⁄18	⁄ 5
Average, 4 grades	30.15	26.47	34.72	⁄14	-13
Cows, Good, Chicago	23.14	20.81	26.33	⁄11	-12
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	29.25	26.13	27.27	⁄12	⁄ 7
Stocker & feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	27.68	22.53	26.96	⁄23	⁄ 3
Barrows and gilts, Chicago	19.51	20.76	23.62	- 6	-17
Sows, Chicago	16.21	16.65	20.83	- 3	-22
Slaughter lambs, Good & Choice, spring, Chicago	27.75	27.49	30.44	⁄ 1	- 9
Slaughter lambs, Good & Choice, spring, Kansas City	28.00	27.74	30.46	⁄ 1	- 8
Slaughter ewes, Good & Choice, Chicago	9.14	9.41	10.83	- 3	-16
	Price per pound				
Meats, retail, New York City	Cents	Cents	Cents		
Steer beef, composite average	2/77.8	68.7	80.5	⁄13	- 3
Lamb, composite average	2/71.9	72.8	71.9	- 1	---
Pork, including lard, composite average	2/46.6	48.5	55.8	- 4	-16

1/ Average for all weights and grades.
2/ Average for first two weeks.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Retail prices of beef, pork, and lamb advanced about equally this spring. Composite average prices at New York City showed an 8 to 9 percent gain for each kind of meat from early April to early June. The price of steer beef in early June was 13 percent higher than in June last year, but prices of pork and lamb were slightly lower than last June. June 1950 prices were moderately lower than those of June 1948.

Stronger Demand, Unchanged Supplies, This Spring, Summer

Higher consumer incomes this year have strengthened demand for meat. Disposable personal income, as a seasonally adjusted annual rate, declined from 193 billion dollars in January-March 1949 to 191 billions in October-December. Augmented by veterans' insurance refunds and a construction boom disposable income mounted to a record 201.3 billion dollars in the first quarter of 1950. As insurance refunds neared their end, income probably slipped off in the second quarter but remained high.

Demand for meat failed to respond immediately to the higher incomes in January-March this year, but its increase later was the main factor in the rapid price advance for meat and meat animals beginning in mid-April. Preliminary indications are that the retail value of meat consumed in the April-June quarter will be about the same as it was in that quarter of 1949. Consumption per person will be nearly the same; prices also will average little different because higher prices for beef are about offset by lower prices for pork and lamb. If incomes per person also do not differ greatly, the retail value of meat consumed in the quarter will average about the same as last year relative to incomes.

The indication that demand is again at last year's relation to incomes supports the prospect for about the usual seasonal price increases this summer. This prospect would be disproved if meat supplies fail to reach expectations, or if personal incomes should begin a new surge this summer.

Price Advance Most Likely For Hogs and Better Grades of Cattle

A seasonal increase in price is most likely this summer for hogs and the better grades of cattle, and for pork and beef. Prices of barrows and gilts and of the top grades of cattle may reach their peak in late summer or early fall. Prices of the lower grades of slaughter cattle are likely to decline seasonally. Lamb prices also may decrease although at a slower rate than usual.

Larger marketings will bring seasonally lower prices of hogs next fall. Prices of the better grades of slaughter cattle may decline moderately during the fall, while those of the lower grades may be more nearly steady.

Price Discount for Heavy Hogs Widens, Is About Average for Season

As usually happens when increasing numbers of sows are marketed, price discounts for heavy hogs have widened. Sow marketings, which were rather early in 1949, were even earlier this year. In the first 3 weeks of June, 23 percent of all hogs received at 7 markets were sows. A year earlier, 20 percent of receipts in those weeks were sows, and two years ago only 11 percent were sows.

The price spread at Chicago between 200-220 and 240-270 pound barrows and gilts was only 22 cents per 100 pounds in May. It widened to 72 by the week ended June 17, but in that week it was more than the 69 cents in the same week of 1949 and in percentage terms was about average for the season. Early in 1950, the price discount for heavy hogs was very wide, but as more lightweight hogs arrived at markets it narrowed faster than usual.

A seasonally wider price spread between light and heavy weights is likely this summer. At the peak of the sow marketings, it may be at least as wide as average for the season.

Table 6.- Price per 100 pounds for barrows and gilts, by months, at Chicago 1941 to date and at 7 markets, October 1949 to date

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
						Chicago						
1941	7.81	7.78	7.69	8.44	9.00	9.88	11.12	11.23	11.67	10.63	10.22	10.75
1942	11.44	12.65	13.42	14.20	14.09	14.26	14.55	14.74	14.67	14.97	13.94	14.03
1943	14.85	15.38	15.61	15.15	14.46	13.95	13.87	14.42	14.94	14.66	13.74	13.55
1944	13.51	13.64	13.98	13.66	13.16	13.11	13.72	14.58	14.69	14.62	14.18	14.23
1945	14.72	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.83	14.74	14.76
1946	14.79	14.85	14.85	14.85	14.85	14.85	18.12	21.93	16.25	23.19	24.19	23.19
1947	22.85	26.12	27.36	23.80	22.67	23.32	24.74	26.31	28.17	28.09	25.10	26.62
1948	27.06	22.48	21.64	19.98	20.32	23.62	27.97	29.56	28.84	25.87	22.91	21.34
1949	19.74	19.78	20.49	18.60	18.86	20.76	21.51	21.41	20.76	18.10	16.04	15.38
1950	15.54	16.85	16.41	16.33	18.96	1/19.51						
						Seven markets 2/						
1949										18.08	15.79	15.21
1950	15.62	16.78	16.38	16.25	19.01	1/19.52						

1/ Average for first 3 weeks.
2/ Entered for comparison with weekly support guides, which were in effect from October 1949 to March 1950 and applied to the 7-market average.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table 7.- Monthly range of support price for hogs per 100 pounds, Chicago, and of weekly price guides seven markets, 1946-50 1/

(Data for cover page chart)

Month	Support price range, Chicago	Month	Support price range, Chicago	Range of weekly guides, Seven markets
	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars
1946		1948		
January	13.00	January	14.75 - 15.75	
February	13.00	February	15.75 - 16.25	
March	13.00	March	16.25 - 17.25	
April	13.00	April	16.50 - 17.25	
May	13.00	May	16.50	
June	13.00	June	16.50 - 17.25	
July	13.00	July	17.25 - 18.00	
August	13.00	August	18.00 - 18.50	
September	13.00	September	18.50	
October	14.00 - 15.00	October	16.25 - 17.25	
November	13.00 - 14.00	November	15.25 - 16.25	
December	12.75 - 13.00	December	15.25 - 15.50	
1947		1949		
January	13.00 - 13.75	January	15.50 - 16.50	
February	13.75 - 14.25	February	16.50 - 17.25	
March	14.25 - 15.75	March	17.25 - 17.50	
April	15.25 - 15.75	April	16.50 - 17.50	
May	15.25	May	16.25 - 16.50	
June	15.25 - 16.00	June	16.25 - 17.00	
July	16.00 - 16.75	July	17.00 - 18.25	
August	16.75 - 17.25	August	18.25 - 18.50	
September	16.75 - 17.25	September	18.25 - 18.50	
October	15.75 - 16.75	October		16.25 - 18.25
November	14.50 - 15.75	November		14.75 - 16.25
December	14.50 - 14.75	December		14.75
		1950		
		January		15.00 - 15.65
		February		15.65 - 16.65
		March		16.65

1/ Price of Good and Choice barrow and gilt butcher hogs, Seven markets are Chicago, St. Louis Nat'l. Stockyards, So. St. Paul, Sioux City, Omaha, Kansas City and So. St. Joseph.

Prices of lard and fat cuts of pork, which have a bearing on the discount for heavy weights, were about the same this June as last.

Feed Prices Higher Than Last Spring

Prices of feeds were higher this spring than last. The cash price of corn at Chicago in June averaged about 12 cents per bushel above the price in June 1949. Most other feeds also are priced higher this June than last (table 8).

Higher prices for corn and other feed grains are attributed to the loan programs that have withheld sizable quantities from consumption, together with smaller feed grain production in 1949 than in 1948, and increased requirements for livestock production. On April 1, this year, stocks of corn in all positions were the largest on record. Stocks on farms totaling 1,634 million bushels, were 164 million smaller than the record stocks of a year earlier. Excluding corn on farms under price support, farm stocks totaled only 1,226 million bushels, compared with 1,502 millions on April 1, 1949. The 1943-47 average for the date was 1,173 million bushels.

Production of byproduct feeds in the 1949-50 feeding year is expected to be about the same as in 1948-49. Supplies of oilseed cakes and meals may total slightly larger, but those of wheat byproducts are a little smaller than last year.

Higher prices for feeds probably were a factor in the smaller increase in the spring pig crop than was planned last December, and in lighter slaughter weights of cattle and hogs this year. Prospects for production of feed grains and for price of feeds this fall will affect livestock production later this year. In general, indications on June 1 were for a smaller crop output than last year. However, no very certain prospects were evident then, and the first report on the new crops will not be available until July 10.

Table 8.- Market prices for selected feeds, mid-June 1949 and 1950

Feed and market	Unit	Price: Week ended: June 10, 1950	Price: Week ended: June 11, 1949	Percent change
				Percent
Corn, No. 3 Yellow, Chicago	Cents per	149.1	135.4	+10
Oats, No. 3 White, Chicago	bushel	97.7	66.0	+48
Cottonseed meal, Chicago	Dollars per	75.95	64.50	+18
Soybean meal, Chicago	ton	83.40	67.40	+24
Tankage, Chicago	do.	106.50	112.50	- 5
Wheat middlings, Chicago	do.	55.00	49.00	+12
Wheat bran, Chicago	do.	47.50	44.50	+ 7
Alfalfa hay, No. 1, Kansas City	do.	1/30.00	1/28.00	+ 7

1/ May price.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Production of canned meat under Federal inspection, and apparent distribution, is given by years since 1937 in table 9. Federally inspected production is the major part of the U. S. total production.

Less canned meat was produced and consumed in 1949 than in 1948. Nevertheless, annual output continues far above prewar. More promotion by packers and distributors and wider consumer acceptance are likely to retain a prominent place for canned meats.

Table 10 contains revisions of commercial meat production by months, 1948 and 1949.

Table 11 presents data on commercial production of lard by months, 1947 to 1949. This series has not been published before in this Situation.

Table 9.- Canned meat: Production and distribution, 1937-49

(Net product weight)

Year	Federally inspected production 1/	Imports 2/	Beginning stocks 3/	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments 4/	Ending stocks 3/	USDA purchases 5/	Military purchases 6/	Apparent civilian distribution 7/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1937	308.1	88.1		396.2	21.9		0		374.3
1938	303.5	78.6		382.1	22.8		0		359.3
1939	406.8	85.9		492.7	23.9		0		468.8
1940	530.2	61.3		591.5	20.2		0		571.3
1941	883.9	104.3		988.2	26.7		188.4	75.5	697.6
1942	1,926.6	91.6		2,018.2	19.8		875.6	920.5	202.3
1943	2,051.2	105.5		2,156.7	9.9		1,024.8	680.5	441.5
1944	1,930.7	87.7		2,018.4	13.2	17.7	448.6	1,121.0	417.9
1945	1,926.1	54.8	17.7	1,998.6	13.5	18.1	359.6	970.9	636.5
1946	1,342.8	3.3	18.1	1,364.2	55.3	22.6	157.1	19.2	1,110.0
1947	1,099.4	28.7	22.6	1,150.7	64.3	27.3	---	31.1	1,028.0
1948	1,096.0	129.1	27.3	1,252.4	35.4	28.0	---	52.8	1,136.2
1949	1,039.7	72.3	28.0	1,140.0	25.7	27.2		23.0	1,064.1

1/ Beef, pork, sausage, all other, excluding soup. 2/ Canned beef only. 3/ Cold storage stocks only. 4/ Department of Commerce data; for 1941-46, total exports and shipments minus lend-lease and UNRRA. Amount shipped to Civilian Supply Program taken from 1948 and 1949 total figure. 5/ Canned meats and meat food products officially graded for CCC. Does not include transfers of meat from the military to CCC or small quantities turned back to civilians or transferred to the military. Purchases from U. S. supplies or imports. 6/ From "Statistical Yearbook of the Quartermaster Corps" and other military records. Not a complete listing of all canned meats purchased during the war years, but practically all of the canned meats purchased during the war for mass troop feeding. Includes imported canned meat and army rations and some meat and rations later transferred to CCC and UNRRA. 7/ From Federally inspected supplies and imports.

Table 10.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1948 and 1949

Year and month	Slaughter: Federally inspected	Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Slaughter: Total commercial	Meat production: Federally inspected	Meat production: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Total commercial	Slaughter: Federally inspected	Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Slaughter: Total commercial	Meat production: Federally inspected	Meat production: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle						Calves					
1948												
Jan.	1,312.1	507.2	1,819.3	637	219	856	586.3	407.2	993.5	61	45	106
Feb.	976.8	387.4	1,364.2	493	169	662	510.8	379.7	890.5	49	38	87
Mar.	985.8	480.9	1,466.7	513	214	727	566.4	511.1	1,077.5	50	49	99
Apr.	898.6	499.3	1,397.9	475	225	700	550.2	492.7	1,042.9	52	49	101
May	876.9	448.7	1,325.6	450	200	650	508.8	416.6	925.4	53	44	97
June	1,109.2	440.0	1,549.2	545	188	733	620.0	419.6	1,039.6	71	47	118
July	1,045.9	414.9	1,460.8	505	176	681	576.7	371.1	947.8	72	44	116
Aug.	1,085.8	427.9	1,513.7	524	181	705	569.4	372.6	942.0	76	45	121
Sept.	1,178.2	478.8	1,657.0	570	203	773	598.8	393.0	991.8	81	46	127
Oct.	1,176.2	456.9	1,633.1	558	194	752	632.8	376.1	1,008.9	82	44	126
Nov.	1,151.4	439.5	1,590.9	558	186	744	614.1	364.7	978.8	77	42	119
Dec.	1,196.9	411.0	1,607.9	605	178	783	572.4	355.3	927.7	67	39	106
Year	12,993.8	5,392.5	18,386.3	6,433	2,333	8,766	6,906.7	4,859.7	11,766.4	791	532	1,323
1949												
Jan.	1,125.8	406.5	1,532.3	596	183	779	483.9	348.4	832.3	54	37	91
Feb.	994.2	353.3	1,347.5	536	161	697	476.4	336.8	813.2	47	35	82
Mar.	1,102.1	408.1	1,510.2	607	187	794	618.6	423.2	1,041.8	57	41	98
Apr.	995.9	365.1	1,361.0	553	168	721	562.0	368.1	930.1	53	38	91
May	1,024.7	385.3	1,410.0	571	176	747	510.5	356.8	867.3	53	39	92
June	1,095.2	398.9	1,494.1	585	180	765	533.0	364.7	897.7	60	43	103
July	1,090.5	376.9	1,467.4	576	167	743	501.3	335.8	837.1	63	40	103
Aug.	1,231.8	440.2	1,672.0	642	193	835	549.2	381.1	930.3	74	49	123
Sept.	1,224.3	448.7	1,673.0	625	196	821	551.5	379.0	930.5	74	47	121
Oct.	1,156.4	425.4	1,581.8	585	187	772	567.6	379.4	947.0	75	45	120
Nov.	1,116.4	419.5	1,535.9	566	185	751	584.7	377.9	962.6	75	44	119
Dec.	1,064.3	363.9	1,428.2	556	161	717	510.5	327.7	838.2	61	36	97
Year	13,221.6	4,791.8	18,013.4	6,998	2,144	9,142	6,449.2	4,378.9	10,828.1	746	494	1,240
	Sheep and lambs						Hogs					
1948												
Jan.	1,347.3	116.7	1,464.0	60	5	65	5,223.3	1,375.7	6,599.0	746	183	929
Feb.	1,208.6	98.1	1,306.7	56	4	60	3,745.8	1,109.5	4,855.3	531	148	679
Mar.	1,174.7	122.5	1,297.2	55	5	60	3,574.1	1,222.5	4,796.6	506	166	672
Apr.	1,045.1	133.0	1,178.1	47	6	53	3,342.7	1,133.8	4,476.5	473	156	629
May	978.0	117.3	1,095.3	42	5	47	3,562.3	1,002.0	4,564.3	515	138	653
June	1,261.8	143.2	1,405.0	52	6	58	4,234.8	884.6	5,119.4	651	123	774
July	1,194.8	138.3	1,333.1	50	5	55	3,044.1	704.7	3,748.8	478	98	576
Aug.	1,264.1	142.1	1,406.2	53	6	59	2,440.1	647.9	3,088.0	372	91	463
Sept.	1,464.0	151.7	1,615.7	62	6	68	2,835.6	839.0	3,674.6	398	116	514
Oct.	1,632.3	136.4	1,768.7	68	5	73	4,097.5	951.8	5,049.3	559	131	690
Nov.	1,443.6	134.9	1,578.5	62	5	67	5,425.0	1,030.6	6,455.6	752	144	896
Dec.	1,328.7	119.7	1,448.4	58	5	63	6,089.4	1,152.6	7,242.0	851	160	1,011
Year	15,343.0	1,553.9	16,896.9	665	63	728	47,614.7	12,054.7	59,669.4	6,832	1,654	8,486
1949												
Jan.	1,234.5	104.5	1,339.0	55	5	60	5,376.6	1,084.6	6,461.2	762	145	907
Feb.	1,045.6	86.1	1,131.7	48	3	51	4,079.5	969.7	5,049.2	563	127	690
Mar.	949.2	83.3	1,032.5	43	4	47	4,314.7	1,006.1	5,320.8	594	130	724
Apr.	675.6	88.1	763.7	31	3	34	3,893.9	840.1	4,734.0	528	108	636
May	760.9	97.3	858.2	34	4	38	3,721.4	777.7	4,499.1	518	101	619
June	898.1	112.8	1,010.9	37	5	42	3,744.8	702.6	4,447.4	557	92	649
July	976.3	106.3	1,082.6	41	4	45	3,164.6	624.9	3,789.5	495	83	578
Aug.	1,125.8	128.0	1,253.8	48	6	54	3,417.3	753.4	4,170.7	500	98	598
Sept.	1,180.0	118.9	1,298.9	51	4	55	3,879.4	849.9	4,729.3	518	110	628
Oct.	1,172.3	115.0	1,287.3	51	5	56	4,959.2	911.9	5,871.1	634	118	752
Nov.	1,060.4	106.0	1,166.4	48	4	52	6,003.1	1,068.4	7,071.5	802	139	941
Dec.	1,057.8	93.8	1,151.6	49	4	53	6,477.2	1,122.7	7,599.9	881	142	1,023
Year	12,136.5	1,240.1	13,376.6	536	51	587	53,031.7	10,712.0	63,743.7	7,352	1,393	8,745

Revises table 10 of Statistical Appendix of the Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Table 11.- Meat and lard produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months, 1947-49

Year and month	Meat production: Federally inspected	Meat production: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Total commercial	Lard production: Federally inspected	Lard production: Other wholesale and retail	Lard production: Total commercial
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1947						
Jan.	1,653	525	2,178	220	37	257
Feb.	1,244	398	1,642	139	27	166
Mar.	1,224	375	1,599	124	20	143
Apr.	1,262	398	1,660	128	22	150
May	1,327	372	1,699	144	22	167
June	1,281	363	1,649	147	20	167
July	1,307	388	1,695	148	19	167
Aug.	1,141	347	1,488	108	15	123
Sept.	1,227	430	1,657	94	20	114
Oct.	1,403	460	1,863	112	23	135
Nov.	1,528	428	1,956	155	23	178
Dec.	1,639	454	2,093	204	28	232
Year	16,236	4,943	21,179	1,722	277	1,999
1948						
Jan.	1,504	452	1,956	188	28	216
Feb.	1,129	359	1,488	141	22	163
Mar.	1,124	434	1,558	128	23	151
Apr.	1,047	436	1,483	108	23	131
May	1,060	387	1,447	122	22	145
June	1,319	364	1,683	169	20	188
July	1,105	323	1,428	123	16	139
Aug.	1,025	323	1,348	91	14	105
Sept.	1,111	371	1,482	87	17	104
Oct.	1,267	374	1,641	121	19	140
Nov.	1,449	377	1,826	176	23	199
Dec.	1,581	382	1,963	226	26	251
Year	14,721	4,582	19,303	1,680	252	1,932
1949						
Jan.	1,467	370	1,837	213	24	237
Feb.	1,194	326	1,520	157	22	179
Mar.	1,301	362	1,663	159	23	183
Apr.	1,165	317	1,482	137	20	157
May	1,176	320	1,496	136	18	154
June	1,239	320	1,559	145	17	162
July	1,175	294	1,469	134	15	149
Aug.	1,264	346	1,610	128	17	145
Sept.	1,268	357	1,625	123	19	142
Oct.	1,345	355	1,700	159	20	179
Nov.	1,491	372	1,863	199	25	224
Dec.	1,547	343	1,890	232	27	260
Year	15,632	4,082	19,714	1,923	247	2,170

Totals are sums of unrounded figures.
Revises table 10 of the Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-May Av. 1949	January-May Av. 1950	1949 May	1950 April	1950 May	1950 June
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	26.57	33.20	26.12	30.94	31.34	
Good	do.	24.24	27.90	24.92	27.66	29.19	
Medium	do.	22.39	25.02	23.62	25.21	27.10	
Common	do.	20.68	22.51	22.07	22.99	24.44	
All grades	do.	23.96	26.68	24.88	26.94	29.02	
Omaha, all grades	do.	22.93	25.29	24.03	25.62	27.64	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	22.67	25.48	24.04	26.04	27.99	
Cows, Chicago							
Good	do.	19.28	20.26	20.72	21.00	22.92	
Common	do.	2/16.29	17.35	2/16.89	17.85	19.41	
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/15.29	14.96	3/15.60	15.27	16.35	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	29.11	30.26	26.35	29.46	30.68	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	23.09	25.07	24.02	25.79	27.19	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	20.38	21.16	21.10	21.80	23.20	
Veal calves	do.	24.16	24.52	23.70	24.60	25.70	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	20.32	16.93	18.84	15.80	18.86	
180-200 pounds	do.	20.52	17.29	19.23	16.32	19.46	
200-220 pounds	do.	20.44	17.35	19.26	16.52	19.57	
220-240 pounds	do.	20.13	17.19	19.22	16.52	19.54	
240-270 pounds	do.	19.61	16.88	19.03	16.41	19.35	
270-300 pounds	do.	18.97	16.51	18.64	16.20	18.94	
All weights	do.	19.49	16.82	18.86	16.33	18.96	
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.38	16.81	18.76	16.25	19.01	
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.18	14.51	15.96	14.67	16.27	
Price received by farmers	do.	19.02	16.38	17.90	15.60	18.50	
Hog-corn price ratio 5/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.4	12.3	13.9	11.5	12.8	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.9	13.4	14.7	12.4	13.8	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	12.32	12.68	12.52	13.18	10.96	
Price received by farmers	do.	9.98	10.59	10.60	11.10	11.00	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.35	25.77	29.52	26.54	26.89	
Price received by farmers	do.	23.72	23.30	25.30	23.80	24.60	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		320	311	319	312	342	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	39.09	43.76	41.25	43.82	46.73	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.95	6/49.90	58.35	6/51.55	6/53.37	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.69	18.44	20.55	17.98	20.44	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.78	25.32	28.21	24.68	28.06	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.14	21.48	23.87	20.98	23.39	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.25	30.12	33.47	29.42	32.80	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	64.2	68.4	64.6	68.1	72.2	
Lamb	do.	66.6	66.4	75.6	69.2	70.7	
Pork, including lard	do.	41.3	37.0	40.0	36.6	39.3	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		221.9	217.4	227.0	214.9	234.0	
Retail (1935-39=100)		223.9	225.5	228.0	224.8	239.9	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Prices of 45-50 lb. lamb carcasses for months of 1950 except January.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-May 1949	January-May 1950	1949 May	1950 April	1950 May	1950 June
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		132	136	127	122	141	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States							
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	483	644	92	128	130	
Sheep and lambs	do.	512	582	163	98	157	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	5,243	5,157	1,025	959	1,075	
Calves	do.	2,651	2,484	510	494	496	
Sheep and lambs	do.	4,666	4,654	761	834	941	
Hogs	do.	21,386	23,710	3,721	4,316	4,338	
Percentage sows	Percent	10	---	14	11	---	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	993	5/992	997	991	5/980	
Calves	do.	179	5/185	182	181	5/200	
Sheep and lambs	do.	97	5/101	93	100	5/ 96	
Hogs	do.	249	5/241	249	238	5/244	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	549	5/542	560	551	5/540	
Veal, per head	do.	101	5/103	104	102	5/110	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	45	5/ 48	44	48	5/ 46	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	5/135	140	133	5/137	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	5/ 56	56	56	5/ 56	
Lard, per head	do.	38	5/ 35	37	35	5/ 36	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	5/ 15	15	15	5/ 15	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	2,862	5/2,797	571	526	5/581	
Veal	do.	264	5/ 255	53	50	5/ 55	
Lamb and mutton	do.	211	5/ 223	34	40	5/ 43	
Pork 2/	do.	2,965	5/3,192	518	574	5/594	
Lard	do.	803	840	136	151	156	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	1,000 head	7,161	---	1,410	1,323	---	
Calves	do.	4,485	---	867	834	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	5,125	---	858	922	---	
Hogs	do.	26,064	---	4,499	5,221	---	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	3,738	---	747	694	---	
Veal	do.	454	---	92	87	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	230	---	38	44	---	
Pork 2/	do.	3,576	---	619	687	---	
Lard	do.	909	---	154	174	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	108	100	91	73
Veal	do.	---	---	12	10	10	7
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	10	11	8	7
Pork	do.	---	---	545	549	542	490
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	791	778	749	672

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.
5/ Estimated from weekly data.

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THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

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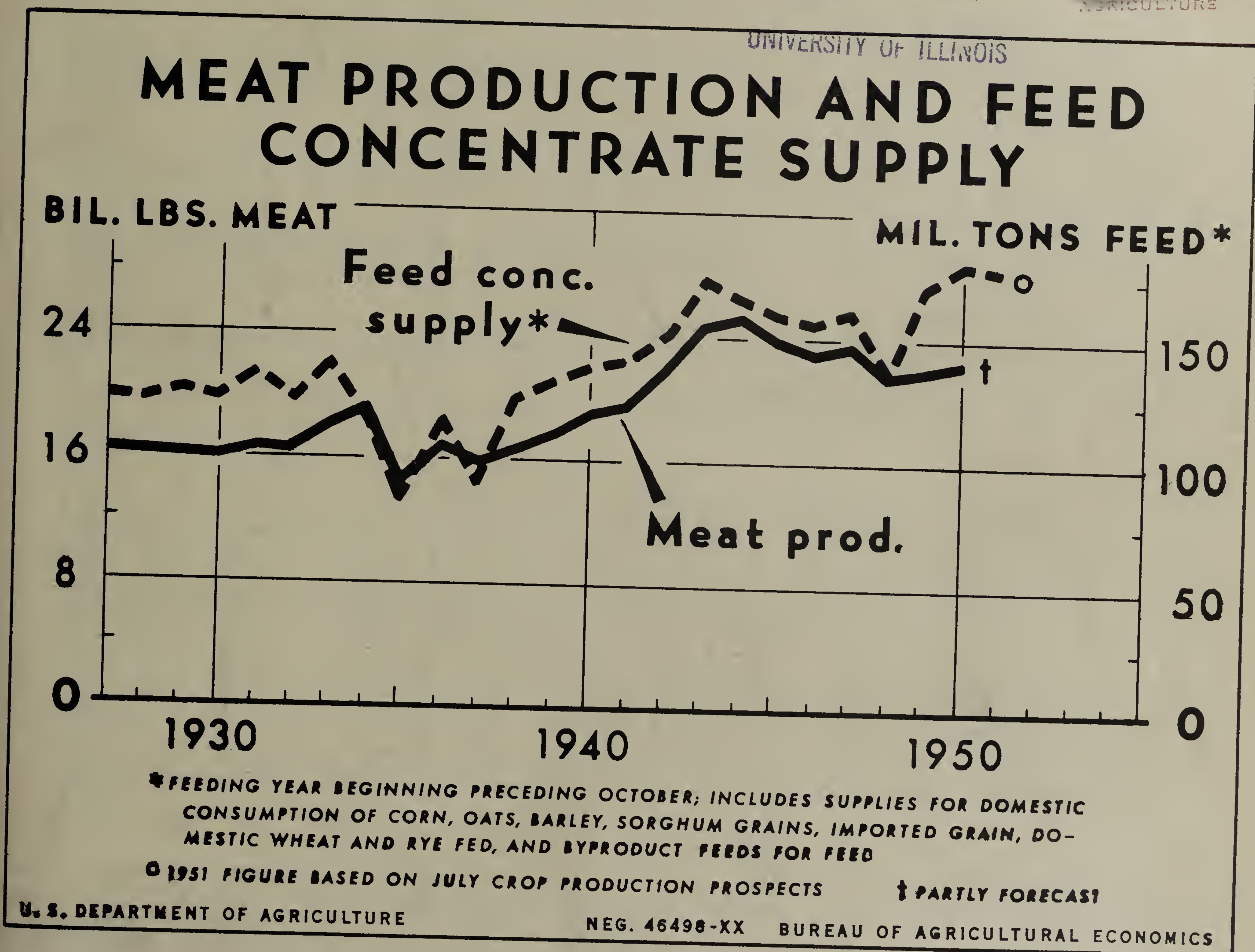
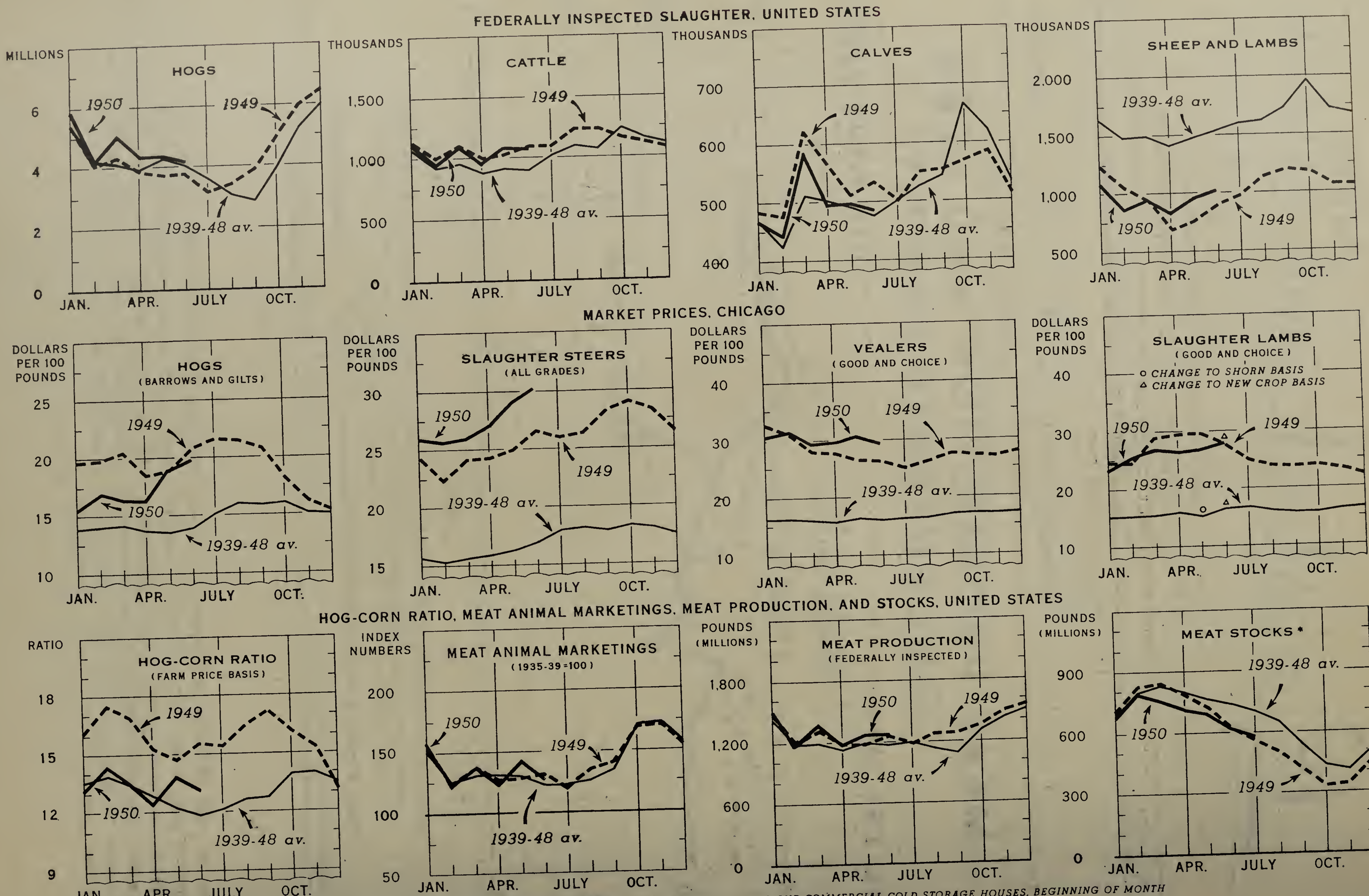
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-41 BAE JULY 1950



Year to year changes in supplies of feed concentrates give some indication of changes which will occur in the production of meat during the calendar year following the grain harvest. On the basis of indications in July, total supplies of feed grain and other feed concentrates for the 1950–51 feeding season will be second only to the record supplies of last year. In view of the large supply of feed concentrates, total production of meat in 1951 probably will be moderately more than in 1950.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 25, 1950

SUMMARY

Output of meat, now at its seasonal low, will increase gradually through the rest of the year. Production in October-December is expected to be slightly larger than a year earlier. The gain will be in pork, largely because of the 3 percent increase in the spring pig crop, and in the better grades of beef. The quantity of beef produced from grass cattle probably will be about the same as in the fall of 1949.

Prices for meat and meat animals are expected to decline seasonally this fall, but to be generally high. Strengthening consumer demand due to increased defense programs may limit some of the seasonal decline in prices associated with increased fall marketings.

Total supplies of meat for the second half of 1950 will include about the same quantity from cold storage stocks and from imports as in the second half of 1949. Although greater than average amounts of meat were withdrawn from cold storage during June, cold storage stocks on July 1 were about the same as a year earlier.

Consumption of meat per person in the October-December quarter is expected to be up a little from the 37.3 pounds in that quarter last year. For 1950 as a whole, consumption per person is expected to about equal the 144 pounds in 1949.

Prices of meat animals and meats have generally advanced since mid-April. The increase in prices of lambs and of Choice grade cattle, however, was relatively small. Demand for meat has been strong this spring and summer, although short of the record demand of the summer of 1948. The seasonal increase in marketings this fall may result in moderately large price declines for hogs and smaller declines for the better grades of beef cattle. No significant drop for the lower grades of beef cattle is in prospect, because demand for feeder cattle is likely to remain strong through the fall. Sheep and lamb prices are expected to follow about the usual seasonal pattern of a small decline in early fall, and to continue high.

In the first 5 months this year, 2 percent fewer lambs and yearlings but 25 percent more mature sheep (mostly ewes) were slaughtered under Federal inspection than a year earlier. Because of this increase in slaughter of ewes it is possible that sheep numbers will be reduced again in 1950.

A moderate reduction in the number of cattle and calves slaughtered so far this year compared with last, together with larger numbers of breeding stock on January 1, points to another increase in cattle numbers in 1950.

Another large corn crop and larger production of oats and barley than in 1949 is in prospect for this year. With a heavy carry-over, dominated by unusually large stocks of corn, supplies of feed concentrates per animal unit will be nearly as large as the record supply of the last year. Hay supplies will be ample, probably near record per hay-consuming animal unit. The prospective large supply of corn on farms will support farmers' earlier intentions to keep more sows for fall farrowing. It may also result in slaughter weights of hogs close to those of last year, and may be followed by another winter of large numbers of cattle fed on grain for slaughter.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Meat Production Seasonally Low

Production of meat in July was seasonally lower than in previous months but as large or slightly larger than a year earlier. Preliminary data indicate that of the four meats, only production of veal was substantially smaller than a year earlier.

Slaughter of grass-fed cattle from range and pasture has been increasing recently and is expected to rise seasonally until about October. Slaughter of grain-fed cattle is also increasing. However, through July the number of grain-fed cattle slaughtered continued smaller than last year, as it had been in nearly all previous months of 1950. Although about 8 percent more cattle were on grain feed for market in 11 Corn Belt States on April 1 than in the previous April, slaughter of grain-fed cattle failed to increase as much this summer as last. Many of the cattle were put on feed last winter at lighter weights than a year earlier and were scheduled for later slaughter dates.

The larger inventory of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt on April 1, together with increased receipts of stocker and feeder cattle and smaller marketings than last year, resulted in 34 percent more cattle on feed in that area July 1 than a year ago. About 74 percent of the July 1 inventory is expected to be marketed before October 1, according to July 1 intentions. About 27 percent of these cattle are intended for market in August and 28 percent in September. If these intentions are carried out the number of head marketed in September will be greatly increased over last year. Consequently, slaughter of grain-fed cattle may soon regain its 1949 level and exceed it later in the season. Slaughter of all cattle is not expected to decrease as much late this year as it did in 1949.

In the week ending July 20, for the first time this year, the number of steers grading Choice or Prime at Chicago exceeded the number grading Good. This reflected the increased proportion of long-fed cattle from feed lots. Well-finished cattle are expected to comprise a major part of receipts until late in the year, when such cattle become seasonally in shorter supply.

Table 1.- Number and average weight of hogs received at 7 midwestern markets, by weeks, May-July, 1949 and 1950

Week ended	Number received 1950 Sows	All hogs	Sows as percentage of all hogs	1949 Sows	All hogs	Sows as percentage of all hogs
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
May 6	16.3	206.1	8	11.3	192.3	6
May 13	21.6	209.9	10	12.7	185.1	7
May 20	23.4	214.7	11	15.7	174.1	9
May 27	30.6	201.5	15	22.4	192.3	12
June 3	34.4	183.5	19	27.5	177.3	15
June 10	49.1	229.9	21	37.7	202.9	19
June 17	60.8	209.4	29	50.7	189.9	27
June 24	65.9	208.3	32	61.6	185.3	33
July 1	79.7	205.8	39	78.0	201.0	39
July 8	67.3	158.3	43	81.9	181.2	45
July 15	95.8	225.1	43	89.4	211.6	42
July 22	91.7	201.4	46	82.8	186.4	44
July 29				85.7	182.7	47

Week ended	Average weight 1950 Sows	Barrows and gilts	1949 Sows	Barrows and gilts
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
May 6	406	236	421	250
May 13	396	235	414	248
May 20	393	234	406	245
May 27	389	233	401	244
June 3	387	231	394	244
June 10	385	234	391	241
June 17	378	231	387	236
June 24	376	227	378	234
July 1	372	223	375	232
July 8	372	224	371	230
July 15	368	224	368	231
July 22	369	227	367	230
July 29			368	227

Production of pork was supported in early summer by early marketings of sows again this year, (table 1). At 7 leading midwestern markets, 14 percent more sows were received this June than in June 1949. Of the total number of sows expected to be slaughtered from May through August, approximately one-half had gone to market by July 1. The number of sows slaughtered is likely to decrease rapidly in late summer.

Slaughter of barrows and gilts was at its seasonal low in July. Within the next several weeks, hogs from the 1950 spring pig crop will begin arriving at market in sizable numbers.

Several factors underlie the prospects for early dates of hog marketings. A larger proportion of the spring pig crop was farrowed before the first of April this year than last. Price discounts for heavy hogs, increasing during the summer, will encourage marketings at light weights at the beginning of the fall season. The fact that many producers obtained comparatively high prices for hogs by marketing before the seasonal price decline last year probably will lead to early marketings again this year.

In each month since July 1949, the live weight of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection has averaged lighter than in the same month a year earlier. During the summer, average slaughter weights for all hogs increases because of the high proportion of sows in the total. Nevertheless, reports from 7 midwestern markets indicate that the market weights of barrows and gilts continue lighter than last year. The weights at these markets in June averaged 8 pounds lower than in June 1949. This fall, however, slaughter weights are likely to approach those of corresponding periods in 1949. It is unlikely that prices during the fall months will be such as to make early marketing of underfinished hogs profitable.

Total meat production in the July-September quarter is expected to be near that of the same quarter last year. Withdrawals from cold storage holdings and imports of meat are not expected to be greatly different from last year. Stocks of meat held in cold storage on July 1 were 633 million pounds compared with 612 million last year, with beef stocks down about 13 million pounds and pork up almost 47 million pounds. Imports of meat and meat animals may be slightly above those of last year unless importation is restricted. Imports from Canada for the first 5 months this year showed a considerable increase over the same months of 1949 (table 2). With meat supplies about the same as a year earlier and the population a little larger, consumption per person in the third quarter may be slightly smaller than the 34.6 pounds last year.

More Meat in Last Quarter

Consumption of all meats per person in the fourth quarter of 1950 promises to be a little above the 37.3 pounds consumed in the same quarter of 1949. Output this fall will increase seasonally at a faster rate than last year. Total production of pork and better grades of beef in that period is expected to exceed last year. Marketings of hogs probably will be up, about in proportion to the 3 percent increase over last year in the spring pig crop. Production of pork, however, may increase less if average weights of hogs slaughtered continue lighter than a year earlier. Total output of beef may be up somewhat this fall from last. The increase will come largely from grain-fed cattle. Output of veal and of lamb and mutton this fall will probably be below that of a year earlier.

Table 2.- Imports of cattle and of beef and veal into the United States from Canada and of cattle from Mexico, by years, 1934-49; by months to date, 1950

Year	Cattle and calves: Canada: Cattle for breeding	Canada: Other edible cattle	Canada: Calves 1/	Mexico: Cattle for breeding	Mexico: Other edible cattle	Mexico: Calves 1/	Beef and veal: Canned including corned	Beef and veal: Pickled or cured	Beef and veal: Fresh, chilled or frozen
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1934	5,608	1,825	0	1,237	55,853	---	5	1	76
1935	13,066	112,720	0	280	251,090	---	7	250	4,368
1936	10,346	178,368	55,695	634	162,431	1,615	1	78	892
1937	11,350	214,546	80,792	692	197,509	1,259	5	191	2,240
1938	9,080	92,118	45,645	383	283,800	2,062	---	10	518
1939	9,599	192,552	81,832	267	445,306	33,259	2/	69	565
1940	12,904	144,675	74,681	602	330,922	29,921	2/	34	362
1941	16,139	173,795	62,419	235	456,373	39,776	22	722	128
1942	16,107	144,017	53,015	81	442,039	13,503	29	4,209	239
1943	22,369	36,292	5,986	582	579,071	8,283	152	11	157
1944	16,748	34,826	5,551	26	300,790	310	8	1	42
1945	22,165	45,530	8,428	9	434,111	1,315	91	2/	43
1946	41,919	68,032	9,345	152	437,614	708	26	2/	59
1947	29,869	45,379	7,642	0	3/1,430	0	1	2/	29
1948	42,853	395,255	23,725	0	0	0	183	935	71,634
1949	21,332	370,591	41,535	0	0	0	297	16	74,534
1950									
January	1,581	31,297	1,886	0	0	0	2	0	5,723
February	1,413	30,841	1,893	0	0	0	5	2	3,170
March	1,617	29,756	4,959	0	0	0	1	0	2,796
April	2,216	23,066	5,677	0	0	0	1	0	2,532
May	2,249	31,023	6,735	0	0	0	6	1	6,076

1/ Under 200 pounds.
2/ Less than 500 pounds.
3/ Cattle from Mexico were actually imported on December 26, 1946; books had been closed so they were reported in January 1947.
Compiled from reports on foreign trade of United States Department of Commerce.

Hog Prices in July Above Last Year

Prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago were steady in June and then climbed rapidly in the first part of July. Prices of barrows and gilts rose $4.73 from mid-June to mid-July, and in the week ending July 15 were $2.55 above those in the same week of 1949. The high percentage of sows in total marketings and the low prices for lard and for fat cuts relative to prices of lean cuts have tended to depress the price of heavier hogs. The spread in price between medium and heavy weights of barrows and gilts, although not as great as last summer, has continued to widen.

Good Cattle Prices Strong; Lower Grades Decline

Prices of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago fluctuated around $30.00 per 100 pounds during early summer. Prices of lower grades this spring and summer continued to increase until early June and have been relatively steady since that time. Prices of Common grade slaughter steers at Chicago fell only from $25.56 the week of June 8 to $24.35 the week ending July 20.

Prices of the better grades of cattle may decline somewhat this fall as supplies of these grades remain large and total supplies of meat increase. No large decline in price of the lower grades is expected, since demand for feeder cattle is likely to be strong throughout the fall.

The spread between prices of feeder steers at Kansas City and of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago increased slowly from the first of May until early July. However, it is still rather narrow for this time of year. Demand for feeder cattle has been very active during most of 1950 and is likely to continue so.

The smaller number of feeder stock available compared with last year and higher prices for feeds may restrict cattle feeding this winter. Inventories of feeder stock on January 1 in the principal western producing States were lower than a year earlier. Present prospects are that demand for beef will continue strong but higher prices for feeds and the continued high prices of feeder cattle will tend to hold down returns from feeding this next year.

The major exception to this prospect is the effect of defense expenditures on prices of slaughter cattle next winter and spring -- and therefore on returns from feeding. However, any extreme rise in general commodity prices would probably be restrained by Government action.

Because of seasonally small supplies, prices of hogs will probably hold near recent levels in the next few weeks. But price trends are expected to be seasonally downward as soon as marketings increase materially. The decline during the fall will probably be no greater than the usual seasonal decrease of 18-20 percent between September and December. No hog price support program has been announced for this fall to limit the extent to which prices may decline.

The upward trend in prices of meats is likely to be reversed as soon as fall marketings of livestock begin in volume. Unless demand increases much more, meat prices may be relatively lower this fall than now.

Heifer Slaughter Down From 1949

In the first 5 months of this year, 1,482,000 cows were slaughtered under Federal inspection, 4 percent more than the 1,427,000 slaughtered in the same months last year. However, the number of heifers slaughtered dropped from 664,000 to 591,000, or 11 percent. The combined number of cows and heifers slaughtered under Federal inspection in January-May this year was 1 percent smaller than last year and was 5.0 percent of the number of cows and heifers 2 years old and over on farms January 1 compared with 5.2 percent last year. This indicates that the number of breeding stock on farms for future herd expansion is being maintained.

Table 3.- Federally inspected slaughter of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, by classes, January-May 1944-50 1/

Class	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1950 as a percentage of 1949
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Percent
Cattle								
Steers	2,790	2,860	2,319	3,229	2,551	3,002	2,926	97
Heifers	575	671	477	862	593	664	591	89
Cows	1,597	1,938	1,387	1,977	1,755	1,427	1,482	104
Cows and heifers	2,172	2,609	1,864	2,839	2,348	2,091	2,073	99
Bulls and stags	206	200	138	172	152	150	159	106
Total cattle 2/	5,168	5,669	4,321	6,240	5,051	5,243	5,158	98
Canner and cutter 3/	708	646	377	685	760	524	500	95
Calves	2,570	2,576	2,199	3,061	2,722	2,651	2,484	94
Total cattle and calves	7,738	8,245	6,520	9,301	7,773	7,894	7,641	97
Sheep and lambs								
Lambs and yearlings	7,214	7,614	7,837	6,190	5,281	4,346	4,255	98
Sheep	830	1,135	887	536	473	320	399	125
Total sheep and lambs 2/	8,044	8,749	8,724	6,726	5,754	4,666	4,654	100

1/ Based on reports from packers.
2/ Based on rounded numbers.
3/ Included in number of total cattle.
Production and Marketing Administration.

Calf slaughter in January-May was 6 percent smaller than last year. Slaughter of classes other than heifers and calves was close to that of a year earlier. These reports indicate that numbers of all cattle on farms January 1, 1951 will be considerably higher than at the beginning of this year. In the past, a smaller slaughter and increased inventory of calves usually has accompanied a rise in the number of all cattle on farms.

Ewe Slaughter Larger

Federally inspected slaughter of "sheep" -- most of which were ewes -- was 25 percent greater the first 5 months of this year than last. Since lamb and yearling slaughter is only 2 percent less than last year, it is possible that sheep numbers may be reduced again this year. The small reduction in sheep numbers from January 1, 1949 to January 1, 1950, continued high prices for lambs and rising prices for wool, and a rather small sheep and lamb slaughter in early months of the year had previously suggested that sheep numbers would not be reduced further this year.

New Law Provides for More Alien Sheepherders

Special quota immigration visas were made available to alien sheepherders (Public Law 587, 81st Congress, signed June 30, 1950). This law permits the admission of 250 skilled sheepherders during the next year from countries for which immigration quotas have been filled. The number of sheepherders admitted under this law must be deducted from subsequent quotas, and they may not be admitted unless offered permanent employment.

Adequate Feed Supplies Expected

Increased production of meat animals in the months ahead will be encouraged by the feed supplies in prospect according to the July 1 crop report. The corn crop for harvest this fall and winter was indicated at 3,176 million bushels, only 200 million less than 1949, and 275 million larger than the 1939-48 average. Crops of oats and barley are expected to be greater than last year. The sorghum grain crop may also be as large as the large crop of 1949. In addition, carry-overs of the four grains are unusually large. Stocks of corn in all positions July 1 were the largest on record. If production is as great as anticipated, supplies of feed concentrates per animal unit in 1950 may be nearly as large as the record stocks of 1949 (table 4). The hay supply will also be ample, probably nearly equal to the 1947 record supply per hay-consuming animal unit.

Large supplies of feed usually are followed by a large production of livestock products. As was true in the last two years, the expansion in livestock in the year ahead is likely to be smaller than feed supplies alone would indicate, because much larger than normal quantities of corn and other grains probably will be held in storage. However, farmers are more likely to carry out their intentions to increase the number of sows to farrow fall pigs than would be true if the corn crop were to be small. Large feed supplies might result in slaughter weights of hogs this fall nearly as heavy as last year. In addition, the number of cattle fed on grain for slaughter probably will be fairly large.

Table 4.- Feed balance, numbers of animal units, and feed per unit, United States, year beginning October, average 1937-41, annual 1946-50

Item	Average 1937-41	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 2/
	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons
Supply						
Stocks beginning of crop year 3/	16.9	10.9	13.8	7.7	30.3	32.0
Production						
Corn	72.1	91.0	66.8	103.1	94.6	88.9
Oats	18.1	24.0	19.2	23.9	21.2	22.3
Barley	6.9	6.3	6.7	7.6	5.7	6.4
Sorghum grains	2.2	3.0	2.7	3.7	4.3	4/4.2
Total feed grains produced	99.3	124.3	95.4	138.3	125.8	121.8
Other grains fed 5/	4.8	5.1	6.2	4.4	5.4	5.0
Byproduct feeds for feed	15.4	19.4	19.0	19.6	19.7	19.5
Total supply of concentrates	136.4	159.7	134.4	170.0	181.2	178.3
Utilization						
Domestic feed grains fed	85.1	100.2	87.1	99.2	105.9	
Domestic wheat and rye fed	4.6	5.0	6.1	3.8	4.7	
Other grain fed	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.7	
Oilseed cake and meal	3.9	5.8	6.2	7.3	7.6	
Animal protein feeds	2.9	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	
Other byproduct feeds	8.6	11.3	10.4	9.9	9.6	
Total concentrates fed	105.3	124.7	112.3	123.2	131.0	
Feed grains for seed, human food, industry, and export	12.1	19.3	13.6	17.8	17.2	
Total utilization	117.4	144.0	125.9	141.0	148.2	
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	116.5	145.9	126.7	139.7	149.2	
Stocks at end of crop year 3/	19.9	13.8	7.7	30.3	32.0	
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed annually October-September (million) 6/	153.1	161.4	155.7	162.7	169.0	169.0
Supply of all concentrates per animal unit (ton)	.89	.99	.86	1.04	1.07	1.06
Concentrates fed per animal unit (ton)	.69	.77	.72	.76	.78	

1/ Preliminary. Subject to change as additional data become available.
2/ Based on indications in July 1950.
3/ Stocks in all positions of corn October 1 and oats and barley July 1.
4/ Unofficial estimate based on indications in early July.
5/ Imported grain and domestic wheat and rye fed.
6/ For weights see table 8, April-May 1949 Feed Situation.

Production of byproduct feeds in the 1950-51 feeding year is expected to be about the same as in 1949-50. Supplies of oilseed cakes and meals may total close to the record supply for this season, and another large supply of other byproducts is in prospect. Soybean meal production is likely to establish a new high this year.

Prices of feed relative to prices of meat animals or animal products directly affects livestock and meat production. Higher prices for feeds probably is one of the reasons why the spring pig crop increased less than was planned last December. They also help account for the lighter slaughter weights of cattle and hogs this year. Prices of feeds are likely to continue high in the next season. The corn price is likely to be closer to the loan rate this fall than last. However, continued strong demand for meat will probably keep the price of meat animals up so that livestock-feed price ratios will encourage a gradual increase in meat production.

Table 5.- Meat production and feed concentrate supplies, United States, 1927-50

(Data for cover page)

Year	Meat production	Feed concentrate supply: Total 1/	Feed concentrate supply: Total less exports 2/	Year	Meat production	Feed concentrate supply: Total 1/	Feed concentrate supply: Total less exports 2/
	Million pounds	Million tons	Million tons		Million pounds	Million tons	Million tons
1927	16.3	123.2	121.9	1940	19.1	136.5	135.2
1928	16.2	122.9	121.0	1941	19.6	140.7	140.2
1929	16.1	126.4	123.8	1942	21.9	150.8	150.1
1930	16.0	121.6	121.0	1943	24.5	172.8	172.6
1931	16.5	113.3	112.9	1944	25.2	164.5	164.2
1932	16.4	123.2	122.7	1945	23.7	158.1	157.3
1933	17.4	138.3	137.8	1946	23.0	155.1	153.9
1934	18.8	115.6	115.5	1947	23.4	159.7	154.5
1935	14.4	82.8	82.6	1948	21.4	134.4	133.1
1936	16.8	114.6	114.3	1949	21.7	170.0	164.6
1937	15.7	90.0	89.8	1950 3/	22.4	181.2	176.8
1938	16.5	123.3	118.8	1951 4/		178.3	
1939	17.5	130.7	129.4				

1/ Includes supply of corn, oats, barley, sorghum grains, imported grains, domestic wheat and rye fed, and byproduct feeds for feed, feeding year beginning October.
2/ Total feed concentrates excluding exports of feed grains.
3/ Partly forecast.
4/ Based on July crop production prospects.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-June 1949	January-June 1950	1949 June	1950 May	1950 June
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	Dollars per 100 pounds	26.72	32.89	27.51	31.34	31.34
Good	do.	24.59	28.25	26.37	29.19	29.99
Medium	do.	22.76	25.49	24.61	27.10	27.86
Common	do.	20.77	22.70	21.26	24.44	24.68
All grades	do.	24.38	27.26	26.47	29.02	30.13
Omaha, all grades	do.	23.35	25.86	25.44	27.64	28.70
Sioux City, all grades	do.	23.12	26.07	25.40	27.99	29.02
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	19.53	20.71	20.81	22.92	22.98
Common	do.	2/16.35	17.77	2/16.68	19.41	19.83
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/15.32	16.27	3/15.44	16.35	16.82
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	28.62	30.09	26.13	30.58	29.22
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	23.00	25.47	22.53	27.19	27.44
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	20.47	21.58	20.90	23.20	23.70
Veal calves	do.	24.02	24.75	23.30	25.70	25.90
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.48	17.39	21.31	18.86	19.69
180-200 pounds	do.	20.69	17.80	21.56	19.46	20.30
200-220 pounds	do.	20.62	17.86	21.51	19.57	20.39
220-240 pounds	do.	20.33	17.69	21.33	19.54	20.21
240-270 pounds	do.	19.82	17.36	20.89	19.35	19.74
270-300 pounds	do.	19.17	16.93	20.16	18.94	19.05
All weights	do.	19.70	17.30	20.76	18.96	19.68
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.58	17.28	20.57	19.01	19.65
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.26	14.82	16.63	16.27	16.35
Price received by farmers	do.	18.98	16.62	18.80	18.50	17.80
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.6	12.5	15.3	12.8	13.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.8	13.4	15.5	13.8	13.1
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.84	12.06	9.41	10.96	8.99
Price received by farmers	do.	9.97	10.64	9.92	11.00	10.30
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.37	26.08	27.49	26.89	27.65
Price received by farmers	do.	23.80	23.55	24.30	24.60	24.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		321	316	316	342	342
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago						
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	Dollars per 100 pounds	39.75	44.55	43.04	46.73	48.49
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	52.18	6/50.48	53.34	6/53.37	6/53.40
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.72	18.84	21.89	20.44	20.89
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.82	25.86	30.05	28.06	28.68
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.13	21.90	25.10	23.39	24.01
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.24	30.71	35.19	32.80	33.67
Retail, United States average						
Beef, Good grade	Cents per pound	64.9	69.6	68.4	72.2	75.5
Lamb	do.	68.4	67.7	77.4	70.7	74.0
Pork, including lard	do.	41.4	37.6	41.9	39.3	40.8
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		223.3	221.4	230.3	234.0	241.4
Retail (1935-39=100)		226.5	229.3	239.3	239.9	248.4

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Prices of 45-50 lb. lamb carcasses for months of 1950 except January.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-June 1949	January-June 1950	1949 June	1950 May	1950 June	1950 July
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		132	134	129	141	126	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States							
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	624	804	140	130	160	
Sheep and lambs	do.	650	748	138	157	166	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	6,338	6,223	1,095	1,075	1,066	
Calves	do.	3,184	2,969	533	496	485	
Sheep and lambs	do.	5,564	5,673	898	941	1,019	
Hogs	do.	25,131	27,864	3,745	4,338	4,154	
Percentage sows	Percent	13	13	28	15	27	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	989	990	972	985	974	
Calves	do.	183	188	201	193	209	
Sheep and lambs	do.	95	99	88	95	90	
Hogs	do.	251	244	266	245	264	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	547	542	537	547	536	
Veal, per head	do.	103	105	113	108	117	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	45	47	42	46	43	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	140	137	149	137	146	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	55	
Lard, per head	do.	38	36	39	36	40	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	15	15	15	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	3,447	3,373	585	585	572	
Veal	do.	324	310	60	54	57	
Lamb and mutton	do.	248	266	37	43	44	
Pork 2/	do.	3,522	3,796	557	593	605	
Lard	do.	948	1,004	145	156	164	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	1,000 head	8,655	---	1,494	1,485	---	
Calves	do.	5,382	---	898	849	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	6,136	---	1,011	1,034	---	
Hogs	do.	30,512	---	4,447	5,229	---	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	4,503	---	765	774	---	
Veal	do.	557	---	103	94	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	272	---	42	47	---	
Pork 2/	do.	4,225	---	649	703	---	
Lard	do.	1,071	---	162	178	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	87	91	72	61
Veal	do.	---	---	7	8	6	7
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	8	7	7
Pork	do.	---	---	466	542	492	466
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	673	749	674	633

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

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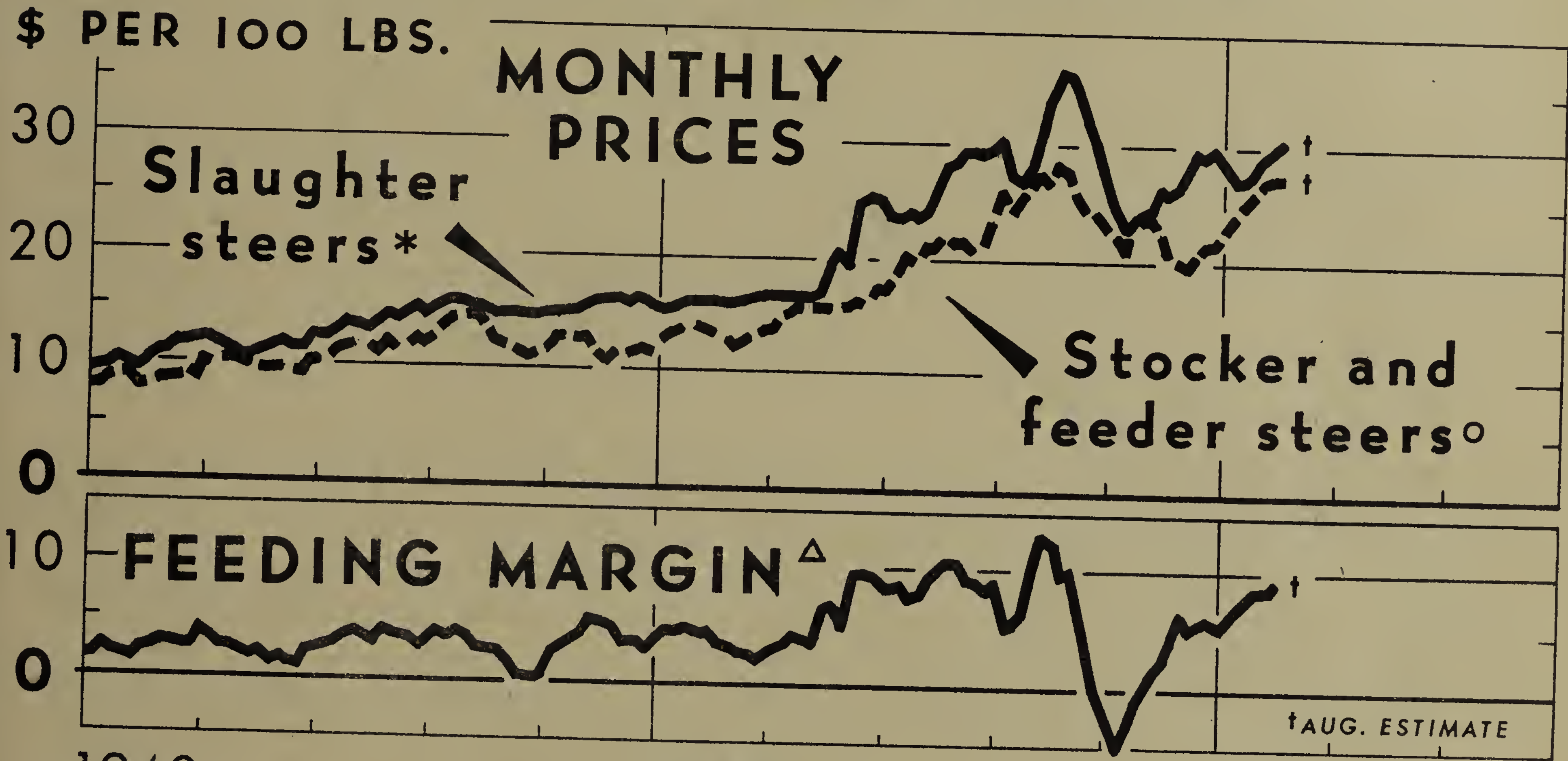
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-42 BAE AUGUST 1950

MARKET PRICES AND FEEDING MARGIN FOR CATTLE



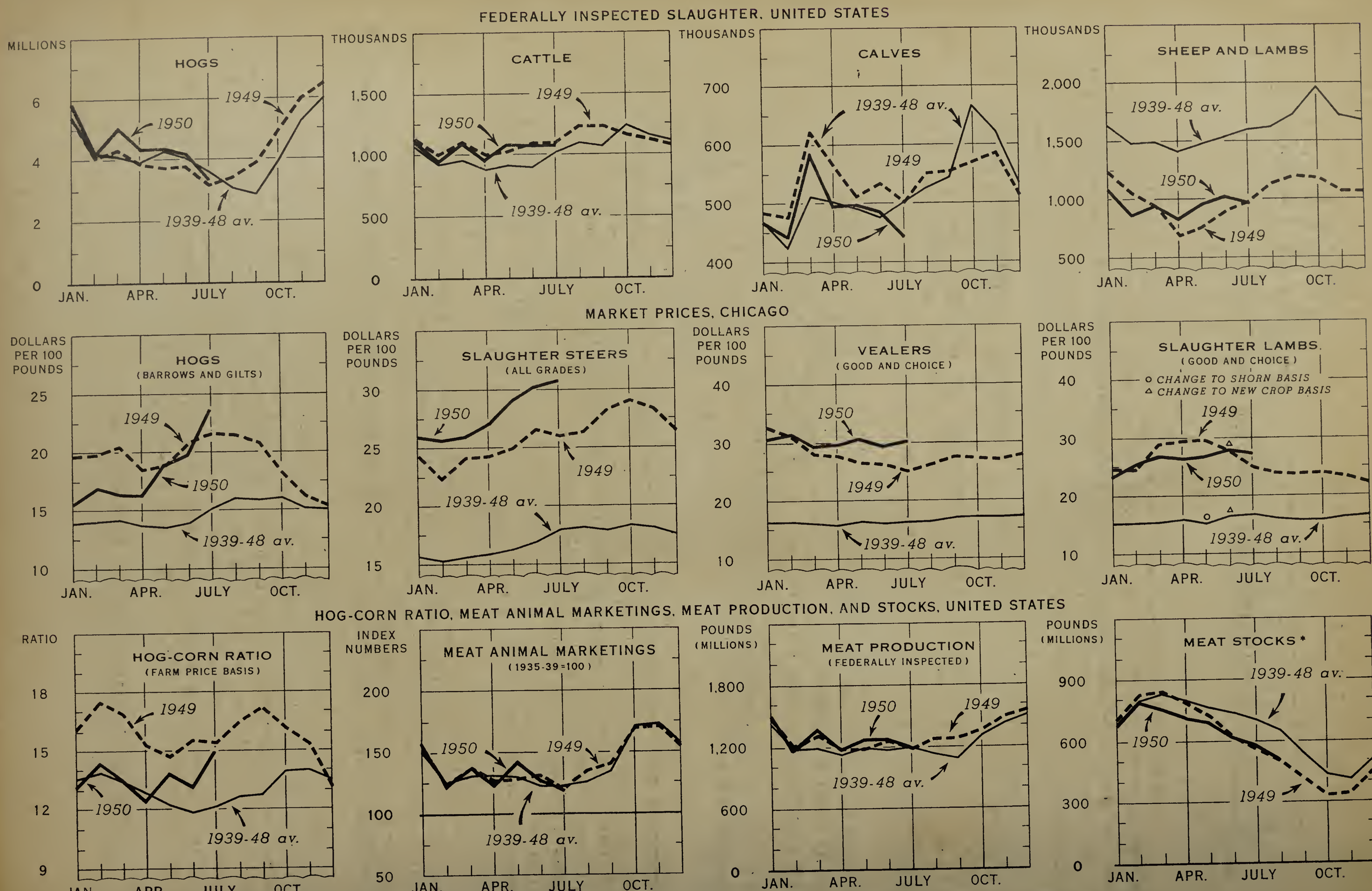
*GOOD GRADE AT CHICAGO °AVERAGE OF ALL GRADES AT CHICAGO
△DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRICES OF SLAUGHTER STEERS AND PRICES OF STOCKERS AND FEEDERS 7 MONTHS EARLIER

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47333-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Feeding margins for cattle bought last summer or fall and sold this year were much wider than the small or negative price margins of a year previously. Purchase prices for the feeders were lower, while prices of slaughter cattle in 1950 have been consistently higher than in 1949.

Prices of feeder cattle have advanced steadily since last December. At Kansas City in July, stocker and feeder steers averaged $7.00 per 100 pounds higher than in July 1949, and within $1.00 of the all-time record. Larger marketings of fed cattle expected this fall than last may bring a moderate decline in slaughter cattle prices, and feeding margins may narrow markedly. Nevertheless, an unusually strong demand, bolstered by defense expenditures, may give enough support to slaughter cattle prices to provide profitable returns to the efficient feeder.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, August 24, 1950

SUMMARY

Prices of hogs are expected to decline seasonally this fall as marketings increase, but to be higher than last fall. Prices of both grass and fed cattle may decline moderately during the early fall because of increased marketings, but probably will make some recovery later in the year or early in 1951.

Prices of hogs were steady in August, continuing near their highest point for the year to date. Prices of cattle eased off somewhat from their July peak. Prices for all reported grades and classes of meat animals this August were higher than a year earlier, but with few exceptions they were below the very high prices two years earlier.

The percentage increase this spring and summer in the retail value of meat consumed was fully as great as that in consumers' incomes, indicating that demand for meat has increased substantially. Demand is stronger than it was a year ago. As defense expenditures are expanded this fall and winter consumer incomes are expected to rise and demand for meat will be increased further. The seasonal declines in prices of meats and meat animals this fall may be less than usual.

Meat production this summer was a little larger than last summer. A larger output of pork made the difference. Meat production this fall also will exceed that of last fall. There will be more beef as well as more pork. Meat consumption per person in the October-December quarter may be up about one pound from the 37.3 pounds consumed in that quarter of 1949. Since consumption per person in the first 3 quarters will total almost as much as a year earlier, the figure for all of 1950 will probably exceed slightly the 144 pounds consumed in 1949.

Sheep and lamb slaughter in early 1950 was below a year earlier but from March through June was larger than last year. In July it again dropped below the 1949 level, and it is likely to continue smaller the rest of this year. The 1950 lamb crop is estimated as 18.4 million head, 2 percent fewer than were saved in 1949.

Prices of feeder cattle during June-August averaged about $6.00 per 100 pounds higher than a year earlier and very close to all-time highs. Returns to farmers on feeders purchased at these high levels will be equal to or above those of recent years only if these cattle are sold at prices higher than they were in the first half of 1950. Whether such a level prevails will depend largely, in the absence of price controls, on the extent of demand for beef in the next 6-12 months.

Shorn wool production of 218 million pounds in 1950 is a slight gain from 1949. The 1950 clip is one-third below the 1939-48 average.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

August Prices Higher Than Last Year but Below 1948

During August, prices of hogs were steady, holding close to their highest point reached this year, but prices of cattle eased off from their earlier peaks. Prices of lambs did not change much in August. August prices of all grades and classes of meat animals were without exception above the late-summer prices of last year. For veal calves, Common grade slaughter steers and possibly the lowest grades of cows, prices this August were above those two years earlier and were record-highs for the month. Hog prices were still below August 1948 prices, but for all other grades and classes of meat animals August prices were almost as high as in the summer of 1948.

Prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago varied about a level of \$23.00-\$24.00 per 100 pounds in July and early August. The Average of \$23.62 the week ended August 19 was \$3.36 above the price a year earlier. However, it was short by \$6.28 of the \$29.90 average for the corresponding week in August 1948.

Prices of sows advanced moderately as market receipts decreased seasonally. Chicago prices the week of August 19 were \$3.20 per 100 pounds above the average for the same week last year.

Less Seasonal Widening of Cattle Prices This Summer

Prices of cattle were strong throughout the summer, although declining moderately in early August. There has been more stability than usual in prices of both top and lower grades. Ordinarily, prices of top grades advance during the summer months and those of the lower grades decline. Chicago prices of Prime and Choice slaughter steers were comparatively steady from May to August, and the Good grade showed little net change over the period, as an advance of \$1.00 per 100 pounds was followed by an equal decline. Prices of Common grade slaughter steers for the week ended August 17 had fallen only \$2.33 from their peak in early June.

Thus, the price spread between grades has widened more slowly than usual this summer, and in July and August it was somewhat narrower than a year earlier and much narrower than two years earlier. In the first half of 1950, the spread between Choice and Common grades had been wider than in the same period last year (table 1).

Demand for top grade cattle was not strong enough to bring about a seasonal rise in prices comparable to 1948 or 1949. The comparatively small decline in prices of lower grades is attributed to active demand for feeder cattle combined with the limited supply due to delayed marketings off range.

Table 1.- Spread between prices of Choice and Common slaughter steers at Chicago, by months, 1949-50

Month	1950 Price per 100 pounds: Choice and Prime steers	1950 Price per 100 pounds: Common steers	1950 Spread, per 100 pounds	1949 Price per 100 pounds: Choice and Prime steers	1949 Price per 100 pounds: Common steers	1949 Spread, per 100 pounds
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Jan.	36.80	20.44	16.36	29.41	20.49	8.92
Feb.	34.70	21.55	13.15	25.61	18.39	7.22
Mar.	32.24	22.13	10.11	25.88	21.21	4.67
Apr.	30.94	22.99	7.95	25.81	21.22	4.59
May	31.34	24.44	6.90	26.12	22.07	4.05
June	31.34	24.68	6.66	27.51	21.26	6.25
July	31.63	24.16	7.47	27.02	19.27	7.75
Aug.	1/ 31.21	1/ 23.60	1/ 7.61	28.01	18.20	9.81
Sept.				31.33	17.83	13.50
Oct.				34.27	18.48	15.79
Nov.				36.25	19.02	17.23
Dec.				37.77	19.23	18.54

1/ Average, 3 weeks ended August 17.

Calf, Lamb Prices Above 1949

Prices of veal calves were steady during the summer at a level substantially above a year previously and close to their record high established in January 1949. Slaughter supplies of calves have been smaller this year than in 1949, as an increasing number have been held on farms and ranches for adding to herds or for feeding.

Prices of lambs were also fairly stable this summer, in contrast with their sharp decline in the summer of 1949. In August they averaged moderately higher than a year earlier. Trends in sheep and lamb slaughter have likewise varied from last year, largely accounting for the different price trends. In 1949, the number slaughtered was unusually small in the spring, then increased rapidly during the summer. This year, slaughter in the spring months was larger than a year earlier, and the summer increase was more moderate. By July, the number slaughtered was slightly smaller than in July last year.

Meat Production Holds Slightly Above Last Year

Commercial meat production in the April-June quarter was up 200 million pounds or 4 percent from the same quarter of last year, and apparently continued a little larger than last year in July. Production in August may total about the same as last August (table 2).

Table 2.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-years 1946 to second quarter 1950

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
			All meats		
1946	5,839	4,440	4,409	5,831	20,519
1947	5,419	5,008	4,840	5,912	21,179
1948	5,002	4,613	4,258	5,430	19,303
1949	5,020	4,537	4,704	5,453	19,714
1950	5,072	4,737			
			Beef		
1946	2,479	1,800	2,191	2,540	9,010
1947	2,542	2,481	2,493	2,580	10,096
1948	2,245	2,083	2,159	2,279	8,766
1949	2,270	2,233	2,399	2,240	9,142
1950	2,234	2,221			
			Veal		
1946	278	252	376	423	1,329
1947	310	336	421	426	1,493
1948	292	316	364	351	1,323
1949	271	286	347	336	1,240
1950	263	278			
			Lamb and mutton		
1946	280	223	212	231	946
1947	198	190	182	209	779
1948	185	158	182	203	728
1949	158	114	154	161	587
1950	151	139			
			Pork excluding lard		
1946	2,802	2,165	1,630	2,637	9,234
1947	2,369	2,001	1,744	2,697	8,811
1948	2,280	2,056	1,553	2,597	8,486
1949	2,321	1,904	1,804	2,716	8,745
1950	2,434	2,099			

Cattle slaughter and beef production increased seasonally beginning in mid-July. However, through mid-August slaughter numbers of each kind remained smaller than a year before. Marketings of fed cattle were especially large in August last year, but this year the peak is expected later. Marketings of cattle off grass are also later this year than last.

Table 3.- Federally inspected slaughter of hogs, by months, January 1948 to date

Date	Total hogs	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Sows as percent of all hogs
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
1948				
Jan.	5,223	4,743	460	8.8
Feb.	3,746	3,446	285	7.6
Mar.	3,574	3,399	161	4.5
Apr.	3,343	3,229	97	2.9
May	3,562	3,295	242	6.8
June	4,235	3,528	678	16.0
July	3,044	2,037	968	31.8
Aug.	2,440	1,571	839	34.4
Sept.	2,836	2,226	581	20.5
Oct.	4,098	3,606	426	10.4
Nov.	5,425	4,823	586	10.8
Dec.	6,089	5,590	463	7.6
1949				
Jan.	5,377	4,952	409	7.6
Feb.	4,080	3,729	335	8.2
Mar.	4,315	3,922	375	8.7
Apr.	3,894	3,489	385	9.9
May	3,721	3,171	532	14.3
June	3,745	2,678	1,037	27.7
July	3,165	1,861	1,279	40.4
Aug.	3,417	2,232	1,155	33.8
Sept.	3,879	3,189	656	16.9
Oct.	4,959	4,389	531	10.7
Nov.	6,003	5,355	612	10.2
Dec.	6,477	5,752	700	10.8
1950				
Jan.	5,844	5,248	579	9.9
Feb.	4,191	3,747	423	10.1
Mar.	5,020	4,563	432	8.6
Apr.	4,316	3,833	458	10.6
May	4,338	3,644	638	14.7
June	4,154	2,995	1,134	27.3
July	3,315	2,032	1,250	37.7

More hogs were slaughtered this summer than last, producing a larger supply of pork. However, market receipts of hogs decreased in August and at the middle of the month were no larger than a year earlier. By mid-August, a few barrows and gilts from the 1950 spring pig crop arrived at markets, adding to those still being marketed from the 1949 fall crop. In August, sow marketings decreased in number and as a proportion of all hogs. The season's high for marketings of sows came earlier than usual again this year.

Seasonally Larger Slaughter, Lower Prices Expected

A seasonally-increasing supply of most kinds of meat animals will probably bring some reductions in prices this fall but the size of reductions probably will be tempered by increasing demand for meat.

Largest gain in supplies, and sharpest price decline, will be in hogs. In almost all past years, hog marketings increased to a seasonal peak in December. The price decline from early fall to December has averaged 18-20 percent.

Similar trends are expected this year. Total numbers of hogs marketed and the quantity of pork produced during the rest of the year are expected to be larger than in 1949. The 1950 spring pig crop, source of fall marketings, was 3 percent larger than the 1949 spring crop. The increase in numbers will probably result in a corresponding increase in pork produced, since slaughter weights are expected to average close to those of last fall. Pork yields per 100 pounds live weight are also likely to be close to last year.

Beginning with the week ending July 29, the weight of barrows and gilts received at 7 leading mid-west markets averaged as heavy or heavier than in the same weeks 12 months earlier -- the first time in about a year this has been true. In the remaining months of 1950 moderately higher prices than last fall and perhaps a little smaller seasonal decline in price will probably hold weights up to or above the year-ago average. Price discounts for heavier hogs are usually less during October-November, whereas discounts for light hogs are usually greater in September than in other months of the year.

Very high industrial activity coupled with increasing defense expenditures is expected to maintain a stronger demand for pork and for all meats than prevailed in late 1949. Due to a stronger demand hog prices are currently above those at the same time last year, and may continue moderately higher than in 1949.

Cattle Slaughter to be Larger in September-October

Considerably more fed cattle will be marketed in September-October this year than last. Numbers of grass cattle slaughtered in those months are likely to be close to those of a year earlier. Consequently, total cattle slaughter will probably be larger. Slaughter will continue a seasonal uptrend in September instead of declining as it did in 1949.

Prices of top grades of cattle thus are not likely to increase sharply as they did beginning in September last year. On the other hand, because of strong demand for meat no great decline is expected. The most likely prospect is that prices of well-finished steers will soften moderately when receipts are largest, but will be steady or possibly slowly rising near the end of the year.

Prices of the lower grades of slaughter cattle and of feeder and stocker steers may weaken somewhat further when range marketings are at their seasonal high in early fall, but no sharp break is expected despite their present very high level. Stocker and feeder prices are high in comparison with prices of other years, and in relation to current prices of slaughter cattle.

If these price prospects prove true, the price spread between top and lower grades will continue fairly constant during the second half of 1950 and may not show the successive widening and narrowing characteristic of most years.

Prospects for large marketings of grain-fed cattle in early fall are based on statistics of shipments to date in 1950, and on farmers' intentions reported as of July 1. Slightly more cattle were on feed last January than in the same date in 1949. In each month from January to June, more stocker and feeder cattle were received in 8 Corn Belt States than in the same month of 1949. Meanwhile, cattle slaughter averaged slightly smaller. Consequently, on July 1 the number of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt was 34 percent higher than a year before.

Feeders in the Corn Belt planned to market in August and September more than one-half of the cattle on feed in the Corn Belt July 1. These intentions would raise September marketings to well above those last September.

In the first half of 1950, cows slaughtered under Federal inspection averaged heavier, but steers lighter, than a year before. Lighter weights for steers were consistent with the poorer finish and lower grade at which they were marketed in the first 6 months this year. This summer, however, the number of top-grade steers marketed increased rapidly, and steer weights averaged heavier than a year earlier. Weights of fed cattle are likely to continue heavy throughout the fall. Although present price relationships between grades do not encourage carrying cattle to extremely high finish, the confidence in market demand together with recollections of the premium prices for top grades late in 1949 will probably result in heavy average weights in months ahead.

Sheep and Lamb Slaughter in the Rest of 1950 to be Below 1949; 1950 Lamb Crop 2 Percent Smaller

Fewer sheep and lambs are likely to be slaughtered the rest of this year than in the same period of 1949. Larger slaughter in March-June this year than last reflected partly the slightly larger early lamb crop this year. The total crop, however, is down from last year, indicating fewer lambs for slaughter in late months than a year earlier.

Sheep and lamb slaughter for all of 1950 will be less than in 1949. The reduction may be large enough to hold inventory numbers constant. It is possible that the numbers reported on farms and ranches next January will be about equal to those last January, ending the decline that began in 1942.

The 1950 lamb crop is estimated as 18,431,000 head, 2 percent fewer than last year. This crop is the smallest in 26 years of record; but the decrease this year is less than in any year since 1942. The smaller 1950 lamb crop is due to a reduction in number of breeding ewes. The percentage crop (number of lambs saved per 100 ewes one year old or older on farms January 1) was higher this year than last.

Almost all this year's reduction in lambs saved was in the total for the Native (eastern) States, since the western crop was almost unchanged from last year. Ewe numbers were down about equally in both regions, but the percentage crop was lower in the East and higher in the West this year than last. The improved percentage crop in the West was accounted for chiefly by a record 78.0 percent crop in Texas, which brought a 7 percent increase in that State's crop from 3 percent fewer ewes.

Meat Consumption Per Person in Fourth Quarter to Surpass Last Year

Supplies of meat in the October-December quarter are expected to be enough larger than a year earlier to provide around 1 pound per person more than the 37.3 pounds consumed in the same quarter last year. This would be the first material increase in consumption per person this year. In each of the first 2 quarters the consumption rate was little different from the same 1949 quarter. The consumption rate in the third quarter will also total not much different from last year. The 1950 total consumption per person may exceed slightly the 1949 total of 144 pounds.

Demand for Meat Up Sharply Since Early in Year

Generally rising prices of meat since early spring reflect stronger demand than last year. Personal incomes of consumers have increased considerably in 1950. Demand and prices for meat did not respond to this increased income until early April.

Data on retail value of meat consumption indicate that demand for meat has increased fully as much percentagewise as have incomes. In the second quarter of 1950, the average retail price of beef was almost 10 percent higher than in the same 1949 quarter, and the highest since 1948. The price of pork was down only 5 percent from the second quarter of last year. Total meat consumption during the second quarter of 1950 was the same as a year earlier. Increased consumption of pork and lamb offset reductions for beef and veal. The index of retail value of meat consumption (seasonally adjusted) for the second quarter was 266 (1935-39=100), 11 points higher than a year earlier and the highest since the summer of 1948. Since personal disposable incomes were up only 4 points, demand for meat apparently was stronger relative to incomes than it was in the same quarter of 1949 (table 4).

Table 4.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, seasonally adjusted, by quarter-year, 1949 to date

Quarter year	Actual values: Civilian consumption per capita	Actual values: Average retail price per pound 1/	Adjusted for seasonal variation: Consumption per capita	Adjusted for seasonal variation: Retail price per pound	Index number 1935-39=100: Retail value of consumption per capita 2/	Index number 1935-39=100: Disposable personal income per capita
	Pounds	Cents	Pounds	Cents	Percent	Percent
	All meat					
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	37.1	---	36.0	---	244	250
Apr.-June	34.9	---	37.2	---	255	246
July-Sept.	34.6	---	36.9	---	250	241
Oct.-Dec.	37.3	---	33.8	---	223	242
Year	143.9	---	143.9	---	243	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	37.3	---	36.0	---	237	255
Apr.-June	35.3	---	37.9	---	266	250
	Beef					
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	16.0	64.0	15.8	65.2	257	250
Apr.-June	16.0	65.7	17.3	66.2	286	246
July-Sept.	16.4	68.2	16.3	66.4	270	241
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	69.3	14.1	69.4	243	242
Year	63.5	66.8	63.5	66.8	264	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	67.2	15.4	68.4	263	255
Apr.-June	15.7	71.9	17.1	72.4	308	250
	Pork, excluding lard					
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	17.9	47.0	16.6	48.4	236	250
Apr.-June	16.1	47.4	16.7	48.2	235	246
July-Sept.	14.8	49.4	17.4	47.6	242	241
Oct.-Dec.	18.8	43.9	16.9	43.6	215	242
Year	67.6	46.9	67.6	46.9	232	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	18.8	41.7	17.4	42.9	219	255
Apr.-June	16.8	44.8	17.5	45.5	234	250

1/ Weighted U. S. average retail price for important cuts.
2/ Computed from estimated retail weight equivalent of consumption. Because much meat is delivered through other than retail channels, this is not consumer expenditure for meat.

Preliminary data for July and August indicate that demand is continuing very strong, both in absolute terms and in relation to incomes.

Since demand apparently has already adjusted to a large degree to the current and anticipated rise in expenditures, no further surge sufficient to prevent seasonal declines in prices seems likely for this fall. If the defense programs expand materially this winter and next spring, as seems likely, demand for meat can be expected to increase accordingly.

Stocker and Feeder Prices Near Record High; Feeding Profits to Depend on Higher Slaughter Prices in 1951 Than in 1950

Raising and feeding of cattle involves large investment and much speculative risk. A particularly long period is required for a current investment to bring returns. Cattle feeding is a shorter-run risk, but nevertheless very speculative.

Except when grain or range feed supplies are limiting factors, the demand and prices for breeding and feeding stock represent to large degree the appraisal of cattlemen of future trends. Just after the war prices for breeding and feeder stock were high by earlier standards, but producers were usually more than repaid as prices of slaughter cattle continued high, despite occasional declines. The summer of 1948 was the only period since 1938 when prices paid for feeder stock resulted in very small or negative price margins for cattle sold 6 to 9 months after purchase.

There has been a growing optimism in the cattle business in 1950. From January through June, combined slaughter of cows and heifers was the same as a year earlier and except for 1946 was smaller than in those 6 months of any year since 1943. This year prices of cows and heifers for breeding have been near the record levels of 1949. Prices of stocker and feeder cattle advanced nearly $5.00 per 100 pounds from January to June. They declined only slightly during the summer, the season of a usual reduction. The average price for all sales of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City in July was $27.48 per 100 pounds, within $1.00 of the all-time record average set in 1948. The July stocker and feeder price at Kansas City was only $3.00 less than the July price of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago. This is the narrowest spread between feeder and slaughter prices for any July since the war. Ordinarily, the spread is seasonally wide in that month.

Purchasers of stocker and feeder cattle this spring and summer have been counting on a strong demand and high prices for slaughter cattle at the time their cattle will be ready for market. The recent strengthening of demand for meat and for slaughter cattle has been in line with their expectation. Whether feeders realize good returns on their present high cost investments will depend largely on whether demand for meat once again provides a very strong market for slaughter cattle at the time of marketing. Returns on this summer's purchases can be equal to or larger than in recent years only if prices of slaughter steers this coming winter and next spring are no lower than now, and several dollars higher than in the first part of 1950.

Present prospects are that prices of grain-fed slaughter cattle in the first half of 1951 may be high enough to provide average returns to efficient feeders. It seems rather unlikely, however, that feeding margins will be as large as the largest obtained in recent years.

Table 5.- Price of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago and of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City, and 7 months lagged margin, by months, 1941 to date

(Data for cover page)

Year and month	Price per 100 pounds: Good grade slaughter steers, Chicago	Price per 100 pounds: Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	Margin between slaughter steers, and stockers and feeders 7 months previous 1/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1941			
Jan.	12.21	10.16	4.16
Feb.	11.64	10.00	3.55
Mar.	11.12	10.29	2.59
Apr.	11.07	10.33	2.66
May	10.54	10.06	2.02
June	10.74	9.90	1.93
July	11.11	9.59	2.35
Aug.	11.58	9.79	1.42
Sept.	11.56	9.98	1.56
Oct.	11.36	9.53	1.07
Nov.	11.24	9.35	0.91
Dec.	12.41	10.46	2.35
1942			
Jan.	12.54	10.57	2.64
Feb.	12.47	10.69	2.88
Mar.	13.03	11.47	3.24
Apr.	13.83	11.93	3.85
May	13.65	12.00	4.12
June	13.12	11.83	3.77
July	13.75	11.09	3.29
Aug.	14.87	12.05	4.30
Sept.	14.63	11.64	3.94
Oct.	15.07	11.83	3.60
Nov.	15.40	12.62	3.47
Dec.	14.90	12.24	2.90
1943			
Jan.	15.05	12.67	3.22
Feb.	15.53	13.48	4.44
Mar.	15.92	14.49	3.87
Apr.	15.91	14.58	4.27
May	15.59	14.60	3.76
June	15.50	14.38	2.88
July	15.06	12.48	2.82
Aug.	15.29	12.17	2.62
Sept.	15.27	11.81	1.79
Oct.	14.92	11.36	0.43
Nov.	14.98	10.97	0.40
Dec.	14.89	11.29	0.29
1944			
Jan.	15.00	11.60	0.62
Feb.	15.12	12.95	2.64
Mar.	15.23	13.06	3.06
Apr.	15.33	12.76	3.52
May	15.73	12.84	4.37
June	16.23	11.65	5.26
July	16.35	10.93	5.06
Aug.	16.42	11.60	4.82
Sept.	16.26	11.34	3.31
Oct.	16.56	11.50	3.50
Nov.	16.27	11.96	3.51
Dec.	15.62	11.49	2.78
1945			
Jan.	15.35	12.40	3.70
Feb.	15.42	13.00	4.49
Mar.	15.81	13.60	4.31
Apr.	16.11	13.90	4.77
May	16.16	14.23	4.66
June	16.16	13.73	4.20
July	16.17	13.54	4.68
Aug.	15.98	13.08	3.58
Sept.	16.15	12.25	3.15
Oct.	16.45	12.62	2.85
Nov.	16.56	13.19	2.66
Dec.	16.45	13.41	2.22
1946			
Jan.	16.51	13.56	2.78
Feb.	16.36	14.71	2.82
Mar.	16.37	15.22	3.29
Apr.	16.46	15.86	4.21
May	16.55	15.82	3.93
June	16.98	15.72	3.79
July	19.86	15.53	6.45
Aug.	20.73	15.51	7.17
Sept.	19.58	15.99	4.87
Oct.	24.97	16.42	9.75
Nov.	25.63	16.30	9.77
Dec.	25.28	17.63	9.46
1947			
Jan.	23.93	17.68	8.21
Feb.	23.79	18.96	8.26
Mar.	24.05	20.13	8.54
Apr.	23.45	19.91	7.46
May	24.22	21.33	7.80
June	25.72	21.11	9.42
July	27.64	21.91	10.01
Aug.	28.27	21.22	10.59
Sept.	29.43	21.65	10.47
Oct.	29.55	20.96	9.42
Nov.	29.12	21.32	9.21
Dec.	29.62	23.59	8.29
1948			
Jan.	30.36	26.31	9.25
Feb.	27.10	24.15	5.19
Mar.	26.92	25.57	5.70
Apr.	28.17	26.62	6.52
May	30.91	27.60	9.95
June	34.85	26.96	13.53
July	36.44	28.25	12.85
Aug.	36.02	27.40	9.71
Sept.	34.49	25.42	10.34
Oct.	32.24	24.41	6.67
Nov.	30.68	24.52	4.06
Dec.	27.82	23.26	0.22
1949			
Jan.	24.72	22.15	-2.24
Feb.	22.99	21.26	-5.26
Mar.	24.19	24.37	-3.21
Apr.	24.37	23.66	-1.05
May	24.92	24.02	0.51
June	26.37	22.53	1.85
July	25.96	20.62	2.70
Aug.	26.50	20.06	4.35
Sept.	28.22	19.74	6.97
Oct.	29.63	20.57	5.26
Nov.	29.35	21.45	5.69
Dec.	29.91	21.44	5.89
1950			
Jan.	28.14	22.94	5.61
Feb.	27.19	24.13	6.57
Mar.	27.33	25.32	7.27
Apr.	27.66	25.79	7.92
May	29.19	27.19	8.62
June	29.99	27.44	8.54
July	30.62	27.48	9.18

1/ Margin between prices of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago for current month shown and of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City 7 months previously.

Price Control Would Affect Returns from Feeding

Price controls are most likely if general commodity prices should advance sharply. Meat and meat animal prices, which usually lead general price movements, would most likely be among the consumer items controlled. It is therefore also reasonable to assume that a large price advance for cattle, and unusually wide feeding margins, are the least likely prospect.

Cattle feeding this fall will be favored by a near-record supply of feed concentrates -- 180.3 million tons as compared with 180.9 million tons last year. A corn crop of 3,168 million bushels was indicated on August 1 -- a large crop although less than last year's. The hay supply will also be ample. Prices of feed in the coming feeding season are likely to continue above prices in the year now ending. The corn price is likely to be closer to the loan rate this fall than last. However, the cattle-feed price ratio will probably be favorable for cattle feeding.

It is possible that numbers of cattle available for feeding will be no larger this year than last. The supply of young stock is large. More calves were on farms January 1, 1950 than a year earlier, the 1950 calf crop is probably as large as last year's. Cattle slaughter has been slightly smaller, and calf slaughter materially smaller, than in 1949. Despite the larger number on hand, however, the number available for feeding may be reduced if cattlemen retain large numbers of young stock for adding to herds. It appears likely that, as was the case last year, a larger than usual part of the demand for feeders this fall will have to be met with calves, older stock and feeders of lower quality.

In July and August, fewer feeders and stockers were shipped from 5 markets than a year earlier. In all previous months, shipments from those markets were larger than in the same months of 1949. The smaller July-August numbers this year are probably due to a delay in marketings off range, and do not necessarily indicate that total shipments for the season will be smaller than last year.

1950 Wool Production Up Slightly From 1949

Shorn wool production of 218 million pounds in 1950 is slightly larger than last year's clip of 217 million pounds. This is the first increase in wool production since 1942. This increase is due to a heavier average weight per fleece, since farmers and ranchers sheared fewer sheep this year than last. The 1950 production is one-third below the 1939-48 average.

Cash Receipts From Meat Animals Below 1949 in First 6 Months, Above in July-August

Farmers' cash receipts from marketings of meat animals in the first 6 months of 1950 are estimated at 3.9 billion dollars, 2 percent less than a year earlier. Receipts in July were about 20 percent larger than a year ago, due mainly to higher prices. Receipts in August probably will total larger than in July as marketings increase seasonally and as prices continue relatively steady, and will be somewhat larger than in August last year.

1949 World Meat Production Up 5 Percent From 1948, and Slightly Above 1934-38

Meat production in the principal livestock producing countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, is estimated at 68.3 billion pounds in 1949, 5 percent above 1948 production and slightly above the 1934-38 average. Livestock prospects for 1950 are favorable and indicate that meat production may be increased this year. The largest 1950 increase can be expected to occur in Europe and the Soviet Union where production is estimated to be still below prewar levels.

Production of beef and veal comprised over half of the total world meat production in 1949, a slightly larger proportion than prewar. The strong demand and favorable growing conditions in most countries in 1949 led to simultaneous increases in both livestock numbers and meat production.

Drought conditions in Argentina and Uruguay have caused some liquidation of livestock numbers. Consequently meat production in Uruguay increased substantially in 1949 while the output in Argentina dropped due to cattle being marketed at lower weights.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Table 6 extends a table on exports and imports of meat previously carried in this Situation. It contains data in terms of carcass weight equivalent by quarters for the last two fiscal years. Exports of meat were larger in the 1949-50 year than in 1948-49. Imports were smaller in 1949-50 than the previous year. In the first two quarters of 1950 imports increased somewhat over the same two quarters of 1949, but were short of those in the last half of 1948. United States foreign trade in meat is small relative to total domestic production.

Table 6.- United States foreign trade in meat, by quarter-years, fiscal years 1949 and 1950

Item	Carcass weight equivalent									
	Exports and shipments to Territories 1/									
	1948-49					1949-50				
	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	Year	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Beef										
Commercial exports	5.6	3.7	3.8	5.2	18.3	6.6	5.4	3.3	5.3	20.6
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	1.0	1.9	1.2	1.4	5.5	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.5	6.4
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6.6	5.6	5.0	6.6	23.8	8.4	6.7	5.1	6.8	27.0
Veal										
Commercial exports	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.4	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.7	2.2
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	0.1	0.1	3/	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.5	1.8	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.8	2.6
Lamb and mutton										
Commercial exports	0.2	1.0	0.4	0.5	2.1	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.7	2.2
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	0.1	3/	3/	0.1	0.2	0.1	3/	0.1	3/	0.2
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.6	2.3	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.7	2.4
Pork excluding lard										
Commercial exports	6.4	8.5	10.7	19.3	44.9	19.5	14.2	16.1	16.7	66.5
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	5.7	9.2	8.7	9.1	32.7	9.5	8.6	13.0	11.0	42.1
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	4.4	4.4	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12.1	17.7	19.4	32.8	82.0	29.0	22.8	29.1	27.7	108.6
All meat										
Commercial exports	12.4	13.8	15.2	25.4	66.8	27.4	20.9	19.8	23.4	91.5
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	6.9	11.2	9.9	10.7	38.7	11.5	10.0	15.0	12.6	49.1
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	4.4	4.4	0	0	0	0	0
Total	19.3	25.0	25.1	40.5	109.9	38.9	30.9	34.8	36.0	140.6
	Imports									
Beef	114.6	126.1	52.6	38.7	332.0	78.2	58.7	54.9	68.6	260.4
Veal	1.9	3.1	0.3	1.1	6.4	2.2	3.3	0.7	4.2	10.4
Lamb and mutton	1.4	1.5	0.1	0.1	3.1	1.0	2.4	3/	3/	3.4
Pork excluding lard	3/	0.4	0.2	0.5	1.1	0.6	1.7	5.2	7.6	15.1
All meat	117.9	131.1	53.2	40.4	342.6	82.0	66.1	60.8	80.4	289.3

1/ Does not include shipments for military civilian feeding. Shipments to Territories as reported (see footnote 2).

2/ Only Territories for which shipment data are available. Data for Alaska and Hawaii have not been reported since March 1948.

3/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-July 1949	January-July 1950	1949 July	1950 June	1950 July
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	Dollars per 100 pounds	26.77	32.71	27.02	31.34	31.63
Good	do.	24.79	28.59	25.96	29.99	30.62
Medium	do.	22.86	25.95	23.46	27.86	28.68
Common	do.	20.56	22.91	19.27	24.68	24.16
All grades	do.	24.59	27.75	25.86	30.13	30.67
Omaha, all grades	do.	23.58	26.37	24.95	28.70	29.46
Sioux City, all grades	do.	23.39	26.59	25.00	29.02	29.74
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	19.54	21.13	19.60	22.98	23.63
Common	do.	2/16.26	18.15	2/15.68	19.83	20.43
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/15.18	15.67	3/14.39	16.82	18.07
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	28.10	30.09	24.98	29.22	30.10
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	22.66	25.76	20.62	27.44	27.48
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	20.40	22.00	20.00	23.70	24.50
Veal calves	do.	23.74	26.03	22.10	25.90	26.70
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.69	18.21	21.89	19.69	23.16
180-200 pounds	do.	20.91	18.69	22.22	20.30	24.09
200-220 pounds	do.	20.86	18.77	22.30	20.39	24.22
220-240 pounds	do.	20.57	18.60	22.05	20.21	24.04
240-270 pounds	do.	20.05	18.22	21.42	19.74	23.39
270-300 pounds	do.	19.33	17.71	20.31	19.05	22.39
All weights	do.	19.96	18.19	21.51	19.68	23.55
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.82	18.17	21.28	19.65	23.50
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.31	15.41	16.65	16.35	18.97
Price received by farmers	do.	18.93	17.31	18.60	17.80	21.50
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.7	12.8	15.3	13.2	15.1
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.7	13.6	14.9	13.1	14.9
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.45	11.67	9.16	8.99	9.32
Price received by farmers	do.	9.87	10.52	9.27	10.30	10.40
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.03	26.26	24.98	27.65	27.37
Price received by farmers	do.	23.67	23.70	22.80	24.80	24.60
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		320	324	316	342	371
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago						
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	Dollars per 100 pounds	40.14	45.26	42.51	48.49	49.50
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.72	6/50.97	48.94	6/53.40	6/53.88
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.84	19.63	22.51	20.89	24.31
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.98	26.95	30.90	28.68	33.37
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.23	22.72	25.80	24.01	27.62
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.38	31.86	36.17	33.67	38.73
Retail, United States average						
Beef, Good grade	Cents per pound	65.3	70.7	67.7	75.5	77.9
Lamb	do.	68.9	68.4	72.4	74.0	73.0
Pork, including lard	do.	41.4	38.5	41.3	40.8	43.7
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		223.9	226.9	227.3	241.4	260.1
Retail (1935-39=100)		227.6	233.6	234.4	248.4	259.0

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Prices of 45-50 pound lamb carcasses for months of 1950 except January.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-July 1949	January-July 1950	1949 July	1950 June	1950 July	1950 August
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		130	132	119	126	119	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	788	956	164	160	162	
Sheep and lambs	do.	793	902	144	166	153	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	7,428	7,293	1,090	1,066	1,070	
Calves	do.	3,686	3,412	501	485	443	
Sheep and lambs	do.	6,540	6,632	976	1,019	960	
Hogs	do.	28,296	31,178	3,165	4,154	3,314	
Percentage sows	Percent	17	---	40	27	---	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	985	987	964	974	973	
Calves	do.	188	193	223	209	226	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	98	90	90	91	
Hogs	do.	255	248	282	264	278	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	544	543	530	539	535	
Veal, per head	do.	106	108	125	117	127	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	47	42	43	44	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	142	139	157	146	156	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	55	56	
Lard, per head	do.	38	37	42	40	40	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	15	15	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	4,023	3,943	576	572	570	
Veal	do.	387	366	62	57	56	
Lamb and mutton	do.	289	308	41	44	42	
Pork 2/	do.	4,017	4,311	495	605	515	
Lard	do.	1,082	1,138	134	164	133	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	10,122	---	1,467	1,462	---	
Calves	do.	6,220	---	837	814	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	7,219	---	1,083	1,121	---	
Hogs	do.	34,301	---	3,790	4,960	---	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	5,246	---	743	753	---	
Veal	do.	660	---	103	97	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	317	---	45	48	---	
Pork 2/	do.	4,803	---	578	709	---	
Lard	do.	1,220	---	149	185	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	74	72	60	60
Veal	do.	---	---	7	6	7	6
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	7	7	6
Pork	do.	---	---	420	492	469	396
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	612	674	633	548

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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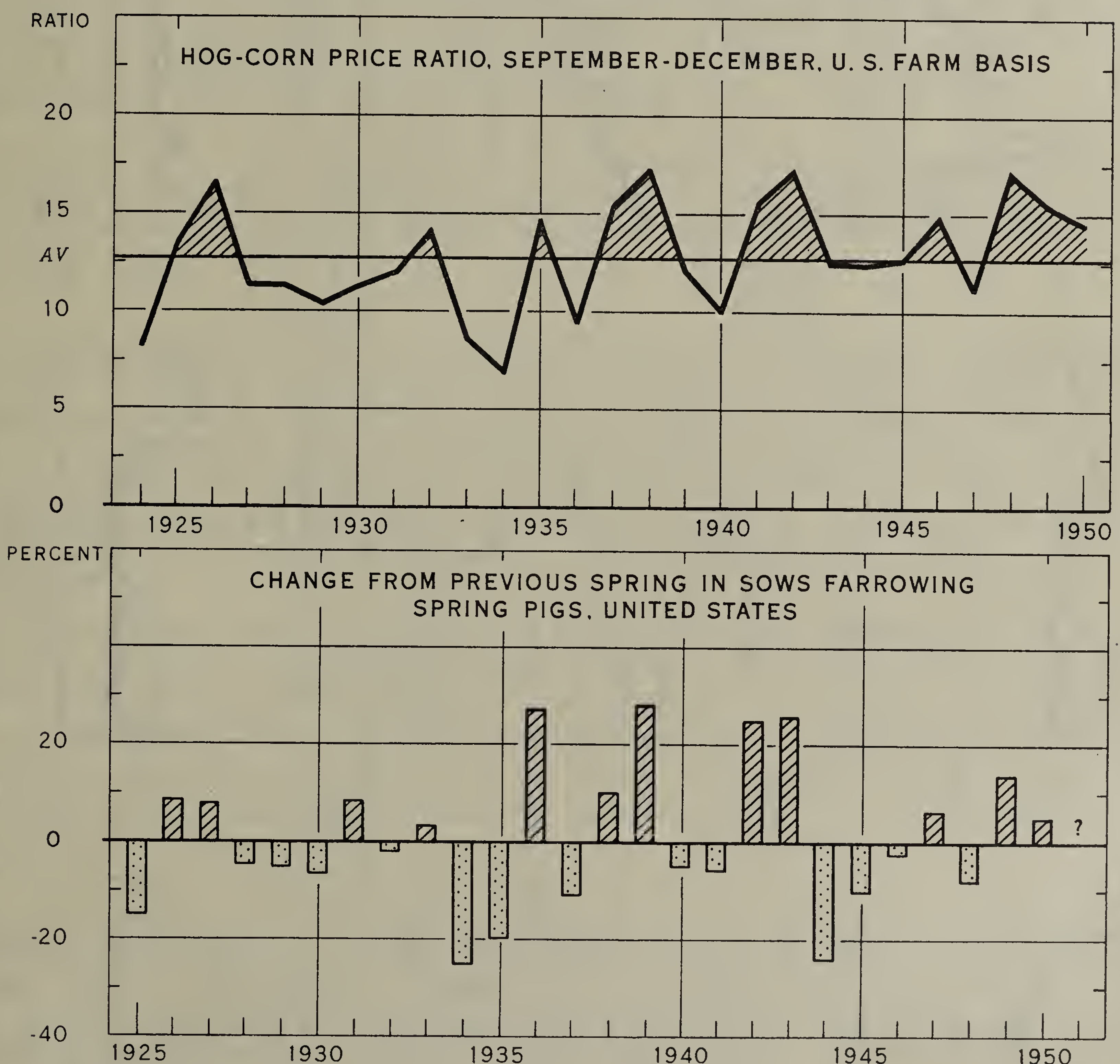
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-43 BAE SEPT. 1950

In this issue:
- Locker and home freezers
- Number and location of commercial slaughterers

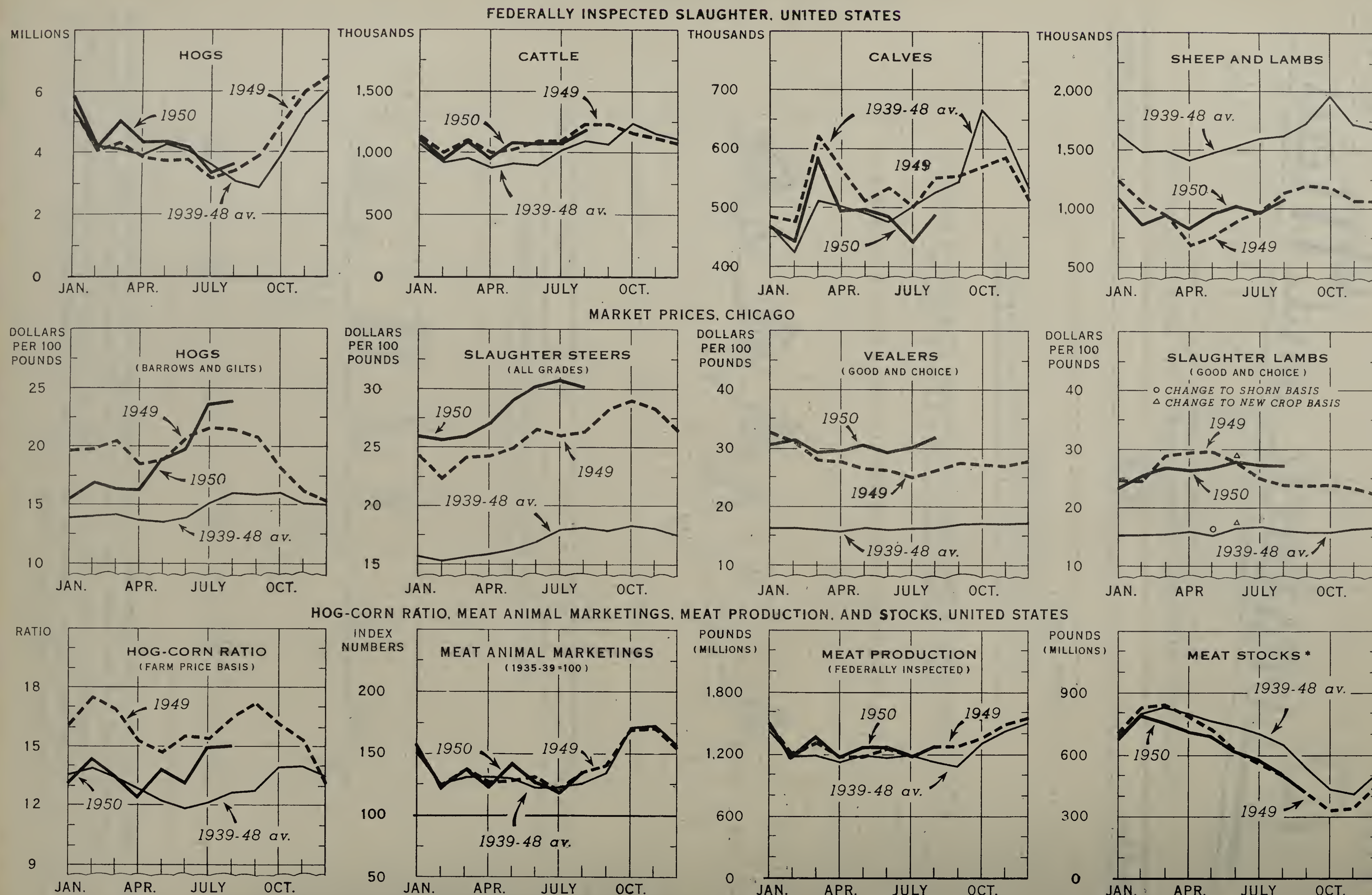
HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN SPRING SOWS FARROWING, UNITED STATES, 1924-50



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47500 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The hog-corn price ratio promises to be above average this fall for the third year in a row. Based on past experiences, this ratio may be followed by a third successive increase in the number of sows to farrow spring pigs. Other factors pointing to a larger 1951 spring pig crop are the pick-up in demand and price for meat in 1950, the prospects for a strong demand in 1951, and the large feed supplies to be available this fall.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, September 25, 1950

SUMMARY

Slaughter of meat animals began to increase seasonally in August and early September, and is expected to increase through much of the fall. The larger supplies of meat are likely to have more effect on prices than will any further strengthening of demand resulting from defense expenditures. About the usual seasonal decline is expected in prices of hogs, and prices of other meat animals may be somewhat lower at times of largest marketings. No strong upward trend in prices is expected until after the turn of the year.

Hog slaughter has increased since mid-August. Slaughter was below a year earlier in late August and early September because sow marketings decreased earlier than last year while substantial marketings of barrows and gilts from the spring pig crop began about two weeks later. By mid-September hog slaughter was again above the 1949 level, and it is expected to continue higher the rest of the year.

Slaughter weights of hogs in mid-September were the lightest of the year but not quite as light as in September last year. Weights are expected to increase seasonally during the fall and to average a little heavier than last fall.

Hog prices advanced during August to the highest level in nearly two years as demand was strong for the seasonally small supply. With the increasing receipts of new-crop hogs, prices were down moderately by the first of September. Because of strong demand, prices of hogs may decline no more than about the average 18-20 percent from early fall to December, and probably will remain above last year's prices. Prices are likely to advance early next year when marketings are seasonally reduced.

The fall increase in cattle slaughter also began late in August. With fewer cattle from range areas to date this year, the number of cattle slaughtered in the first half of September was below the corresponding 1949 level. However, slaughter was at its peak in mid-September last year. This year, slaughter is expected to reach its peak in October or early November. In the last three months cattle slaughter will probably total larger than a year earlier.

Prices of cattle in early September held close to the level of the previous three months. Spreads between top and lower grades continued narrow. Cattle prices may weaken somewhat when marketings reach a peak, although demand both for slaughter cattle and for cattle to go on feed will have a strong supporting effect.

Veal calf prices edged to an all-time high the week ending September 16. No great change is expected the rest of the year.

Sheep and lamb slaughter picked up seasonally in September as receipts from western range areas increased. Slaughter has recently been smaller than in 1949 and is likely to continue smaller through the remainder of the year. Prices of sheep and lambs, now well above last year's prices, are not expected to drop much.

The 1951 spring pig crop probably will be larger than this year's crop. The hog-corn ratio during the breeding season this fall promises to be well above average--a situation which almost always leads to an increase in farrowings in the spring. Alternative feeding activities may be limited, since supplies of feeder cattle and feeder lambs are relatively short.

Feed supplies per animal unit this fall are expected to be as large as the record supply of a year ago. The corn crop promises to be the fourth largest and stocks are very large. The 1950 crop, however, will be below average in quality. Supplies of other feed grains and concentrates will be ample. Although the 1950 crop may not provide for additional production of hogs, a substantial part of the large corn carry-over will be available at near the 1950 loan price. The farm price of corn may be below the loan this fall, but is expected to rise seasonally during the winter and spring.

Price controls on meat animals as well as other farm products are authorized by the Defense Production Act of 1950. Price ceilings can be no lower than parity prices or the highest prices actually received between May 24 and June 24, 1950, whichever is higher, but with adjustments to be made for seasonality as well as grade and location. In that period, prices for beef cattle, veal calves and lambs were well above parity, and the highest actual prices at that time, as adjusted, would determine for some time ahead the minimum level at which any ceiling could be set. Prices of hogs were near parity in the May 24-June 24 period. Parity is likely to be more important with respect to ceilings for hogs than for other meat animals. As of September 15, prices of all meat animals except hogs had not advanced greatly over the highest May 24-June 24 prices, and the gain in hog prices was largely seasonal. Hence, September prices were probably a little below the range of the control standards, but any sizable advances above September would put them within that range.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Hog Slaughter Rising Seasonally

Hog slaughter began its seasonal increase late in August as the southern and eastern Corn Belt sent large shipments of hogs from the 1950 spring pig crop. The movement of new-crop hogs got under way about two weeks later than last year--when it was especially early.

Sow marketings, on the other hand, were earlier this year than last and declined steadily after mid-July. In August and early September sow marketings were a smaller percentage of total hog marketings than they were a year before.

With sow marketings decreasing earlier and new-crop barrows and gilts arriving later, total hog slaughter the second half of August and first part of September was smaller than last year. Previously this year, slaughter had been larger than in 1949, and by mid-September it was again larger.

As was to be expected, many of the first marketings of hogs from the 1950 spring pig crop were light in weight. The average weight of barrows and gilts received at 7 markets declined seasonally during August and in the first half of September was down to 212 pounds. In early September last year weights were at their 1949 low of only 208 pounds. Weights are expected to increase during the rest of 1950 and to continue a little heavier than last year.

The 1950 spring pig crop, source of fall marketings, was 3 percent larger than the 1949 spring crop. Hence, it is expected that more hogs will be marketed and more pork produced the rest of the year than a year earlier.

In almost every year, prices of hogs increase during the summer, when market receipts are small, then decline during the fall months as hogs from the spring farrowings are marketed. With certain exceptions, prices have followed this pattern so far this year and a normal trend is expected through the fall. Due to strong demand and smaller supplies, prices of hogs advanced in August to the highest levels in nearly two years. Prices declined moderately about the first of September, with prices of light weight hogs off most. Because of strong consumer demand prices may decline no more than about the average 18-20 percent this fall despite the increased supply, and will probably stay above a year earlier.

Cattle Slaughter Also on Seasonal Increase

Cattle slaughter in August was smaller than last year, but beef production was a little larger. A higher percentage of the slaughter this August was fed cattle, resulting in a considerably heavier average weight per head.

Cattle slaughter increased from August to September because of larger marketings from both feed lots and ranches, but through the middle of September continued below 1949. However, mid-September slaughter last year was the year's peak. Slaughter is expected to increase to an October or early November peak this year and to exceed last year as a total for the last three months.

Western grass cattle have been coming to market later this year than last. Receipts of cattle classed as "grass" at 7 markets during the seven weeks ending September 16 were only 52 percent as large as in the same period last year. Smaller movements of cattle off range also show up in smaller receipts of stocker and feeder cattle. Stocker and feeder receipts at 5 markets in the same seven weeks were 29 percent under last year.

Better conditions in the range States this September than last are one reason for the later marketings of cattle. The reported condition of range feed in the western States on September 1 was considerably better than on the same date of 1949. Improvement over last year is most marked in the northern range States, where drought prevailed in 1949. However, in Colorado, southern Texas, northwest New Mexico, and some local areas of other States conditions are poor to fair this fall because of dry weather.

Cattle Held in Range Country or Contracted Will Restrict Feeder, Slaughter Supplies

There probably are more cattle in the range States this year than last. However, more will probably be kept for breeding and for feeding in those States this year. The western States have shown in recent years a growing interest in feeding cattle for western markets. The number of cattle on feed there rose to a record high on January 1, 1949. Numbers were down slightly by January 1950, but reports of wide activity in feeding and of favorable conditions in much of the wheat grazing country point to a continued high number on feed in western States this winter.

Contracting of feeder stock appears to be at a much higher level than last year. This is another reason for expecting the salable supply of feeder cattle this fall at Corn Belt markets to be down from last year, when receipts were swollen by large marketings from drought areas of the West.

Soft Corn Would Increase Feeder Demand for Cattle, Prolong Period of Large Slaughter

The corn crop is late this year, and much of it will be soft unless frosts are also late. If there is much soft corn, demand for feeder cattle, already very strong, will be intensified. Many partly-finished cattle, and many two-way cattle, would be held for feeding on the soft corn. Cattle slaughter would be somewhat smaller than previous expectations in mid-fall, and a little larger later.

Cattle Prices Steady in September

Cattle prices were holding close to summertime levels in early September. Continued large supplies of well-finished cattle are expected to press down on prices of this grade. Demand for breeding and feeder stock may limit supplies of grass cattle for slaughter, preventing any marked decline in prices of the lower grades. The price spread between grades thus may widen only slowly and remain narrower than last fall.

Prices of veal calves edged higher during early September, reaching an all-time high the week ending September 16. No great change is expected the rest of this year.

Sheep Slaughter Below 1949

Sheep and lamb slaughter increased in recent weeks due to larger receipts from western range areas. Slaughter numbers remained below last year, as they have been since mid-July. Indications are that a larger than usual proportion of the 1950 lamb crop had been marketed by August 1. This evidence together with the moderately smaller lamb crop points to a smaller slaughter during the rest of the year than in the closing months of 1949. Due partly to increased contracting of feeder lambs, the October peak in slaughter probably will be less pronounced this year than in most years.

Federally inspected slaughter of mature sheep during the first seven months of this year was over 10 percent greater than in the corresponding months last year. Slaughter of lambs and yearlings was less than 1 percent greater. There has apparently been considerable replacement of older ewes. It is possible that the slaughter of sheep and lambs the rest of the year will be small enough to hold the inventory of sheep and of lambs next January 1 nearly up to the January 1950 level.

Sheep, Wool Prices Above 1949

Prices of sheep and lambs have been unusually steady this summer and early fall. Prices at mid-September were substantially above a year previous. No more than a moderate decline is likely in the next month or two, and by the end of the year prices will probably be at or above their present level.

Wool prices increased sharply this year, after having been fairly steady in 1948 and 1949 due in part to the stability afforded by support purchases. The average price of 58.3 cents received by farmers August 15 was 21 percent above the price a year earlier and within 1.7 cents per pound of the record high reached in World War I.

USDA Report Points to Resources for More Sheep

The United States has the resources for a one-third increase in sheep production and there is a ready demand for the lambs and wool that this added production would provide. This is a conclusion presented in Domestic Wool Requirements and Sources of Supply, released by the Production and Marketing Administration and BAE. The numbers indicated would be approximately midway between the 30.8 million head on farms January 1 this year and the 1942 high of 56.2 million. Increases would be most feasible in the Western Corn Belt, Great Plains, and Mountain States.

Continued Increases in Hog Production Likely

Farmers reported on June 1 this year that they intended to breed about 5 percent more sows for 1950 fall farrowing than a year earlier.

Since then, the price of hogs has gone up and the hog-corn ratio has become progressively more favorable to hog producers. These changes, and the new military program, developed too late to permit farmers to increase fall farrowings much above the level they had intended earlier. But the increase in fall litters probably will be at least as large as was indicated on June 1.

There will probably also be an increase in the number of 1951 spring pigs. In almost every year since 1925 a September-December hog-corn ratio above 12.8 to 1 was followed by an increase in numbers of sows farrowing the following spring. (See cover chart and table 1.) The ratio on August 15 this year was 15.0, and for the fall--the breeding season for spring pigs--it may average around 14.5. Certain factors, such as the large scale of present hog-raising operations and the availability of storage loans on corn to eligible producers, will tend to limit further expansion in production. However, these are not new factors. They were important last year and in 1948 as well. The small increase of only a few cents per bushel in the loan rate for corn this fall compared with last, and the eligibility requirement for loans, will in fact make the corn storage program a less restrictive influence this year. Moreover, livestock feeders will find comparatively few opportunities for feeding operations other than raising more hogs. The supply of feeder cattle and lambs is limited this year. Also, dairy production is practically stable, and while output of most poultry items is expanding, total feed requirements for poultry are relatively small.

Livestock feeding in the months ahead will be encouraged by very large feed supplies. The corn crop for harvest this fall was indicated on September 1 at 3,163 million bushels. Crops of oats and barley are greater than last year. The grain sorghum crop will be near record. In addition, carry-overs of these feed grains are unusually large. The supply of all concentrates (including byproduct feeds) per animal unit in prospect for the feeding year beginning October 1950 is estimated to be about the same as the record of last year.

The 1950-51 corn supply--1950 crop plus carry-over--is estimated to be only about 2 percent less than the supply last year and will be more than adequate for all requirements. More of the supply this fall, however, is expected to be held under Government loan or ownership. Since domestic use of corn in the 1949-50 year ending this September 30 was about 3,150 million bushels, a 1950 crop of no more than 3,163 million bushels would indicate that some corn would have to be withdrawn from storage in order for livestock production to increase.

It may be assumed that the current corn crop will be available for domestic use at prices averaging about the loan rate for the season as a whole. At about the same prices, some additional quantities may be expected to move into consumption out of storage, both out of "free" stocks on farms and out of resealed stocks. These supplies and prices are probably not unfavorable for a moderate expansion in hog production, in view of current and prospective prices for hogs. It is nevertheless possible that in case of severe frost damage to the 1950 corn crop, reducing both the supply and the quality, or of greatly expanded livestock production, increasing the needs for corn, the only additional corn available would be the higher-cost reserves such as CCC stocks. Under these circumstances there would be more upward pressure on corn prices.

Table 1.- Hog-corn price ratio during fall breeding season, arrayed according to United States ratio, and number of sows farrowing following spring, 1924-50

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Hog-corn price ratio September-December 1/ United States	Hog-corn price ratio September-December 1/ North Central States	Number of sows farrowing following spring	Increase or decrease from preceding spring in sows farrowing: Number	Increase or decrease from preceding spring in sows farrowing: Percent
			1,000 head	1,000 head	
1938	17.2	18.8	8,692	1,897	27.9
1942	17.2	18.4	12,174	2,490	25.7
1948	17.1	17.5	9,054	1,090	13.7
1926	16.6	17.5	9,754	706	7.8
1941	15.5	16.3	9,684	1,924	24.8
1949	15.4	15.8	9,518	464	5.1
1937	15.3	16.7	6,795	618	10.0
1946	14.8	15.6	8,652	543	6.7
1935	14.7	15.8	6,954	1,487	27.2
1950	2/14.5	---	---	---	---
1932	14.2	17.4	9,122	312	3.5
1925	13.5	15.3	9,048	714	8.6
1945	12.7	13.5	8,109	-189	-2.3
1943	12.4	13.4	9,246	-2,928	-24.1
1944	12.3	13.4	8,298	-948	-10.3
1939	12.0	13.3	8,247	-445	-5.1
1931	12.0	13.0	8,810	-159	-1.8
1947	11.2	11.2	7,964	-688	-8.0
1927	11.2	11.6	9,301	-453	-4.6
1928	11.2	12.2	8,854	-447	-4.8
1930	11.2	12.3	8,969	691	8.3
1929	10.3	10.9	8,278	-576	-6.5
1940	10.0	10.6	7,760	-487	-5.9
1936	9.4	9.4	6,177	-777	-11.2
1933	8.6	10.2	6,825	-2,297	-25.2
1924	8.2	8.7	8,334	-1,465	-15.0
1934	6.8	7.0	5,467	-1,358	-19.9

1/ Based on prices received by farmers.
2/ Partly forecast.

The price of feed is only one of the factors to be considered in any appraisal of livestock production in 1951. Demand for meat, a second important factor, seems likely to strengthen as consumer incomes rise further. The net effect on meat prices will depend largely on the extent of increases in personal incomes as limited by other demands on the consumer's dollar and by Governmental fiscal policies or controls. Controls outlined or imposed do not appear stringent enough to prevent an increase in demand for meat.

Moreover, experiences in the previous defense, war and early postwar years demonstrated that, during a short-run increase in demand for meat, a sizable expansion in meat supplies is necessary to prevent strong upward pressure on prices. If demand does expand in the future, it is likely that a moderately larger meat supply could be consumed without much change in prices.

All these factors, taken together, point to an increase in hog production in the coming year--possibly an increase of around 5 percent for the 1951 spring pig crop.

Price Controls Authorized; None Announced

The Defense Production Act of 1950 provides for a number of controls on the national economy, including authority for priorities, allocations, and requisitioning; expansion of productive capacity and supply; price and wage stabilization; settlement of labor disputes; credit control; and certain others. If applied, these controls would have a far-reaching effect on the national economy and on the demand for meat.

With respect to price stabilization, the Act specifies that any ceilings on farm products cannot be lower than the higher of two prices--parity price, or the highest actual prices received by producers between May 24 and June 24, 1950, as they might be adjusted for seasonality, grade or location. Prices of all meat animals except hogs were well above parity in that period (table 2.) Thus at the lowest level that could be imposed, ceilings on prices of beef cattle, veal calves, and lambs could be no lower than the highest prices in May 24-June 24 as they might be adjusted. The minimum level of ceilings on hog prices, as adjusted, would likely be affected by parity. As of mid-September there had been virtually no increases in prices of beef cattle and lambs over the highest May 24-June 24 prices, and a moderate increase in prices of veal calves. Hog prices rose more, but the gain was largely seasonal. Consequently, the maximum possible cutbacks as of mid-September would be small. Any sizable increases in prices over the level prevailing in mid-September would probably put them in the range of authority for control.

The data in table 2 are illustrative, and will not be entirely applicable to the future, if parity prices should themselves change substantially.

There has been no indication of when or how the authority for price controls will be applied. The President announced on September 9 that widespread controls were not due soon.

Table 2.- Illustrative data relative to limitations to price controls on meat animals contained in Defense Production Act of 1950

Calculated without regard to differentials for grade, location or season

Class of meat animals	Percent of parity price received by farmers, June 15, 1950 1/	Applicable provision as to lowest possible ceilings 2/	Percent of parity price received by farmers, August 15, 1950
	Percent		Percent
Beef cattle	137	Highest May 24-June 24 price	138
Veal calves	134	do.	139
Lambs	130	do.	129
Hogs	93	Probably parity 3/	4/111

1/ June 15 is only date for which farmers' prices are available in the May 24-June 24 period. 2/ This indication holds true only so long as calculated parity prices do not change materially. 3/ Provision as to parity as a minimum ceiling for hog prices would be affected by seasonal adjustments. 4/ Seasonally high on the date.

Canada to Lift Ban on Pork Shipments

The Canadian Government has announced that import and export restrictions on pork and pork products to and from Canada will soon be lifted. The announcement indicates that the prohibition on imports of fresh pork and preserved bacon, hams, shoulders, and other pork products will be lifted December 31. Canadian officials have indicated also that as soon as the British bacon contract is filled, the ban on exports as well as imports will be removed. It is possible that this contract will be filled early in December.

The lifting of these embargoes would place all trading in livestock and meats between Canada and the United States on a prewar basis since in August 1948 Canada removed controls on exports of almost all other classes of meat and slaughter animals. In the absence of further controls, trading in livestock and meats will depend largely on the relative price differentials between the two countries, as affected by import duties and quotas of the United States.

Trading in pork between the United States and Canada has usually been small. Exports from the United States to Canada averaged 21.0 million pounds, product weight, annually in 1937-41, and imports from Canada were 8.4 million pounds.

LOCKER AND HOME FREEZERS AS FACTORS IN SEASONALITY OF DEMAND FOR MEAT

The short-run demand for cuts of fresh meat at retail is affected by the quantity of meat put into consumers' cold storage. In recent years the facilities available to consumers have increased greatly. The number of refrigerators in homes is steadily increasing. Deep freeze units are becoming more popular, and frozen food lockers, which first came into broad acceptance in the 1930's, continue in widespread use. The number of consumers who can hold fresh meat after slaughter or retail purchase is now sufficiently large to influence week-to-week or seasonal demand for meat.

There are over 30 million refrigerators in use in American homes. 1/ Over half of the refrigerators produced this year had a capacity of 8 cubic feet or more. Most units of this size have compartments that maintain temperatures for freezing or storage of frozen foods. Estimates on the number of deep-freeze units in use vary from 2 1/4 to 3 million. These units, too, are increasing in capacity, as this year's sales include many of 8, 10, and 12 cubic feet volume. 2/ Additional locker plants are being put into use, although at a decreasing rate. There are approximately 5 million lockers available in freezer locker plants throughout the country. 3/ These individual lockers will average about 6 cubic feet capacity. The combined storage space of these storage units (refrigerators, deep-freeze units, and lockers) with temperatures low enough for safe storage of meat is estimated to be considerably larger than the volume of freezer space used for meat in commercial cold-storage houses.

1/ Electrical Merchandising, January 1950, p. 86.
2/ Ibid, p. 87.
3/ Report of L. B. Mann, FCA, before National Frozen Food Locker Association, September 1950.

Very few data are available as to how consumers apportion their cold-storage space among various foods, or how often they restock their space. One local survey reported 50 percent of the content of home freezers as occupied by meat, and indicated that probably a higher percentage of locker space is so used 1/. For both lockers and deep-freezers, the quantity of meat held may vary at different times of the year according to the supplies of meat and of products competing for space. Substantial quantities of meat may be kept in the freezing compartments of home refrigerators, but the quantities on hand probably do not vary much through the year since they are restocked frequently by small purchases. Cold-storage lockers and deep-freeze units are more important than refrigerators from the standpoint of seasonal changes in demand for meat.

The full effects of movements to or from cold storage units is probably not felt at the retail level since farmers rely heavily upon their own home produced supply of meat. Approximately two-thirds of the freezer lockers are rented by farmers, but probably a somewhat smaller proportion of all deep freeze units is on farms.

If consumers use somewhat more than half their deep-freezer and locker space for meat, they may have room for 1 billion pounds. This would be about 50 percent more than the meat and meat products in commercial cold-storage houses on July 1 this year. In comparison with the 5 to 6 billion pounds of meat consumers use each quarter, the volume of home storage is substantial. Home freezers and lockers, like any other storage, can be a source of stability or instability in weekly or seasonal demand and prices, depending on how they are used. If buying for them is done in weeks or in seasons of large supplies and low prices, they will have an affect of smoothing out the weekly or seasonal price changes. If buying is done less judiciously, variations can be accentuated.

There is some evidence that meat prices this summer were influenced by movements to and from home storage. Undoubtedly, those who bought in late June and early July when meat supplies were seasonally low contributed to a stronger demand than usual. Later this summer many of these buyers were drawing on reserves and thus were not in the current market on the same scale as they otherwise would have been. Also, they will buy less meat this fall than they would have bought had they waited for the flush-supply season to restock their freezers and lockers.

LOCATION OF FEDERALLY INSPECTED AND OTHER COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTERING PLANTS AND RECENT TRENDS IN SLAUGHTER VOLUME

Livestock are slaughtered at a wide range of locations and in a broad variety of establishments. Large numbers, especially of hogs, are killed and dressed on farms. Commercial slaughter, which is all slaughter other than on farms, is made up of three different types of operation: (1) wholesale slaughter under Federal inspection; (2) wholesale slaughter not under Federal inspection; (3) retail slaughter.

1/ The Relation Between Locker Plants and Home Freezers in the Distribution of Frozen Foods in Arizona. PMA, USDA, June 1950.

In May this year there were 441 wholesale establishments under Federal inspection (not counting the 18 inspected slaughterers of horses) and 725 wholesale plants not under Federal inspection. There were more than 2,000 "local" slaughterers, who, together with the several thousand butchers, make up retail slaughter.

The 725 non-federally-inspected wholesale plants generally each slaughter 2 million or more pounds live weight per year. Local slaughterers are regarded as those handling less than 2 million but more than 300,000 pounds live weight annually. Small establishments slaughtering less than 300,000 pounds are termed butchers.

Although non-federally-inspected wholesale plants and local plants do not receive Federal inspection, many of them operate under State or municipal health inspection.

The location of wholesale and local slaughterers as of May 1950 is shown in the accompanying charts. The first chart identifies by cities the 441 plants receiving Federal inspection. The second shows the geographic position of all wholesale establishments, those under Federal inspection being indicated by a solid dot and those not under Federal inspection by an open circle. The third chart spots the local slaughterers--those not under Federal inspection which are smaller than wholesale slaughterers but larger than butchers.

The 441 plants now receiving Federal inspection is the smallest number since 1943. The number under Federal inspection increased during the war to a peak in 1945 and 1946 and has decreased since (table 3).

Table 3.- Number of establishments conducting slaughter under Federal inspection, June 30, 1940-50

Year	Number 1/
1940	305
1941	304
1942	299
1943	422
1944	475
1945	541
1946	545
1947	460
1948	481
1949	459
1950	441

1/ Excludes slaughterers of horses.
Compiled by Livestock Branch, PMA from records of Bureau of Animal Industry.

Expansion of the Federal meat inspection service during the war was stimulated by several wartime regulations. The Fulmer Act of June 1942 authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to provide meat inspection during the war emergency to meat packing plants not then receiving inspection but desiring to engage in interstate commerce in meats. A War Food Administration Order of 1944 extended inspection on cattle slaughter. Many plants were granted full or limited inspection under these authorities.

Augmented by the additional plants under inspection and favored by certain requirements calling for inspected meat, Federal inspected slaughter became an increasing proportion of the commercial total. Cattle slaughter under inspection reached 73.5 percent of the commercial total in 1944. For hogs, the percent under inspection that year was 81.7. Peaks were less evident for calves and lambs (table 4).

Events of the latter price-control period led to an increase in the percentage of commercial slaughter that was done by the smaller, non-federally-inspected slaughterers, and to a corresponding decline in the percentage under Federal inspection. The percentage of cattle slaughter under inspection slipped to 60 percent in 1946, and the percentage of hog slaughter was down to 70 and 71 percent in 1945 and 1946.

In 1947 the relative importance of federally inspected slaughter increased markedly. The increase came about as conditions of marketing and distribution returned more nearly to their prewar character. Since 1947, there has been a more gradual uptrend in the part of commercial slaughter carried on by federally inspected slaughterers. The uptrend occurred despite fewer plants under Federal inspection, and despite an extended packing-house strike in 1948 that gave a temporary advantage to the smaller non-inspected firms. In 1949, the percentage of commercial slaughter under Federal inspection was up to 73 1/2 percent for cattle and 83 percent for hogs.

In the first half of 1950, inspected and non-inspected commercial slaughter held about their 1949 standing relative to each other. It appears, though, that during the spring and summer period of increasing demand for meat, non-inspected slaughterers gained some advantage as compared with the previous summer. In July, the percentage of slaughter that was conducted in non-inspected plants was larger than in July 1949 for all species of meat animals except sheep.

Greater use of cold-storage lockers and home freezers may give a small stimulus to non-inspected slaughterers, especially local slaughterers and butchers. Certain other factors, such as any increases in consumer acceptance of brand-name meats, sped by national advertising, would seem to favor the larger, inspected packers. Because of these and other factors, and with conditions in the new defense period not clear, there is no certain indication of future trends in the relative position of federally inspected and non-inspected slaughterers.

Table 4.- Volume of slaughter in federally inspected and all other commercial establishments, with percentage comparisons, 1941-49

Year	Commercial slaughter			Percent of total Commercial slaughter		Commercial slaughter			Percent of total commercial slaughter	
	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Percent
	Cattle					Calves				
1941	10,932	4,916	15,848	69.0	31.0	5,461	3,107	8,568	63.7	36.3
1942	12,340	5,047	17,387	71.0	29.0	5,760	3,317	9,077	63.5	36.5
1943	11 721	5,416	17,137	68.4	31.6	5,209	4,111	9,320	55.9	44.1
1944	13,955	5,035	18,990	73.5	26.5	7,769	5,749	13,518	57.5	42.5
1945	14,531	6,244	20,775	69.9	30.1	7,020	5,884	12,904	54.4	45.6
1946	11,402	7,479	18,881	60.4	39.6	5,841	5,569	11,410	51.2	48.8
1947	15,524	6,009	21,533	72.1	27.9	7,933	5,080	13,013	61.0	39.0
1948	12,994	5,392	18,386	70.7	29.3	6,907	4,860	11,767	58.7	41.3
1949	13,222	4,791	18,013	73.4	26.6	6,449	4,379	10,828	59.6	40.4
	Sheep and lambs					Hogs				
1941	18,122	3,605	21,727	83.4	16.6	46,520	12,088	58,608	79.4	20.6
1942	21,624	3,383	25,007	86.5	13.5	53,897	12,117	66,014	81.6	18.4
1943	23,363	3,134	26,497	88.2	11.8	63,431	17,779	81,210	78.1	21.9
1944	21,875	2,918	24,793	88.2	11.8	69,017	15,500	84,517	81.7	18.3
1945	21,218	2,850	24,068	88.2	11.8	40,960	17,300	58,260	70.3	29.7
1946	19,884	2,350	22,234	89.4	10.6	44,394	18,000	62,394	71.2	28.8
1947	16,667	1,540	18,207	91.5	8.5	49,116	12,813	61,929	79.3	20.7
1948	15,343	1,554	16,897	90.8	9.2	47,615	12,054	59,669	79.8	20.2
1949	12,136	1,240	13,376	90.7	9.3	53,032	10,712	63,744	83.2	16.8

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-August 1949	January-August 1950	1949 August	1950 July	1950 August
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	26.92	32.54	28.01	31.63	31.37
Good	do.	25.00	28.76	26.50	30.62	29.97
Medium	do.	22.89	26.20	23.06	28.68	28.02
Common	do.	20.26	22.99	18.20	24.16	23.51
All grades	do.	24.80	28.04	26.28	30.67	30.09
Omaha, all grades	do.	23.78	26.71	25.18	29.46	29.10
Sioux City, all grades	do.	23.64	26.91	25.36	29.74	29.16
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	19.34	21.37	17.95	23.63	23.07
Common	do.	16.01	18.39	14.31	20.43	20.11
Canner and Cutter	do.	14.94	15.92	13.28	18.07	17.72
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.83	30.31	25.96	30.10	31.84
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	22.33	25.90	20.06	27.48	26.90
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	20.28	22.26	19.40	24.50	24.10
Veal calves	do.	23.52	25.32	22.00	26.70	27.40
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.67	18.78	20.54	23.16	22.76
180-200 pounds	do.	20.98	19.34	21.48	24.09	23.90
200-220 pounds	do.	20.99	19.46	21.91	24.22	24.32
220-240 pounds	do.	20.74	19.32	21.95	24.04	24.33
240-270 pounds	do.	20.26	18.95	21.73	23.39	24.08
270-300 pounds	do.	19.56	18.42	21.16	22.39	23.35
All weights	do.	20.14	18.90	21.41	23.55	23.86
Seven markets 4/	do.	20.01	18.88	21.32	23.50	23.89
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.51	16.02	17.86	18.97	20.32
Price received by farmers	do.	18.99	17.85	19.40	21.50	21.60
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.9	13.2	16.4	15.1	15.6
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.8	13.8	16.4	14.9	15.0
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.13	11.65	8.90	9.32	11.51
Price received by farmers	do.	9.73	10.57	8.78	10.40	10.90
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.62	26.58	23.79	27.37	27.21
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	6/22.66	7/25.69	22.66	---	27.42
Price received by farmers	do.	23.36	23.85	21.20	24.60	24.90
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers						
(1910-14=100)		319	330	310	371	369
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	40.62	45.61	43.95	49.50	48.10
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.40	8/51.05	49.20	53.88	51.60
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.99	20.24	23.06	24.31	24.57
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.19	27.79	31.66	33.37	33.73
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.43	23.35	26.86	27.62	27.80
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.66	32.74	37.66	38.73	38.98
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Good grade	per pound	65.6	71.6	67.8	77.9	77.8
Lamb	do.	69.0	68.7	69.4	73.0	70.7
Pork, including lard	do.	41.6	39.4	43.2	43.7	46.0
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		224	230.9	224.4	260.1	258.3
Retail (1935-39=100)		229	236.7	237.3	259.0	258.5

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Price for August only.
7/ Average of prices for January, February, March and August.
8/ Average of prices of 45-50 lb. lamb for all months except January, July and August.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-August 1949	January-August 1950	1949 August	1950 July	1950 August	1950 Sept.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		130	132	134	119	134	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	1,172	1,195	384	152	239	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,128	1,257	335	153	355	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	8,660	8,477	1,232	1,070	1,184	
Calves	do.	4,235	3,896	549	443	484	
Sheep and lambs	do.	7,666	7,709	1,126	960	1,076	
Hogs	do.	31,713	34,804	3,417	3,314	3,626	
Percentage sows	Percent	17	17	34	38	31	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	982	985	961	973	974	
Calves	do.	195	199	243	226	241	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	97	92	91	93	
Hogs	do.	255	249	262	278	259	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	542	542	524	535	536	
Veal, per head	do.	110	111	136	127	135	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	46	43	44	44	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	143	139	147	156	144	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	55	
Lard, per head	do.	38	37	38	40	38	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	14	14	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	4,666	4,575	642	570	632	
Veal	do.	461	431	74	56	65	
Lamb and mutton	do.	337	355	48	42	47	
Pork 2/	do.	4,517	4,830	500	515	519	
Lard	do.	1,210	1,273	128	133	136	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	11,794	---	1,672	1,474	---	
Calves	do.	7,150	---	930	767	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	8,472	---	1,254	1,062	---	
Hogs	do.	38,472	---	4,171	4,022	---	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	6,081	---	835	754	---	
Veal	do.	783	---	123	97	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	371	---	54	46	---	
Pork 2/	do.	5,401	---	598	607	---	
Lard	do.	1,365	---	145	152	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	68	60	61	72
Veal	do.	---	---	7	7	6	7
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	7	6	6
Pork	do.	---	---	367	469	394	299
Total meat and meat products 4/ ...	do.	---	---	547	633	543	462

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
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1951 OUTLOOK ISSUE
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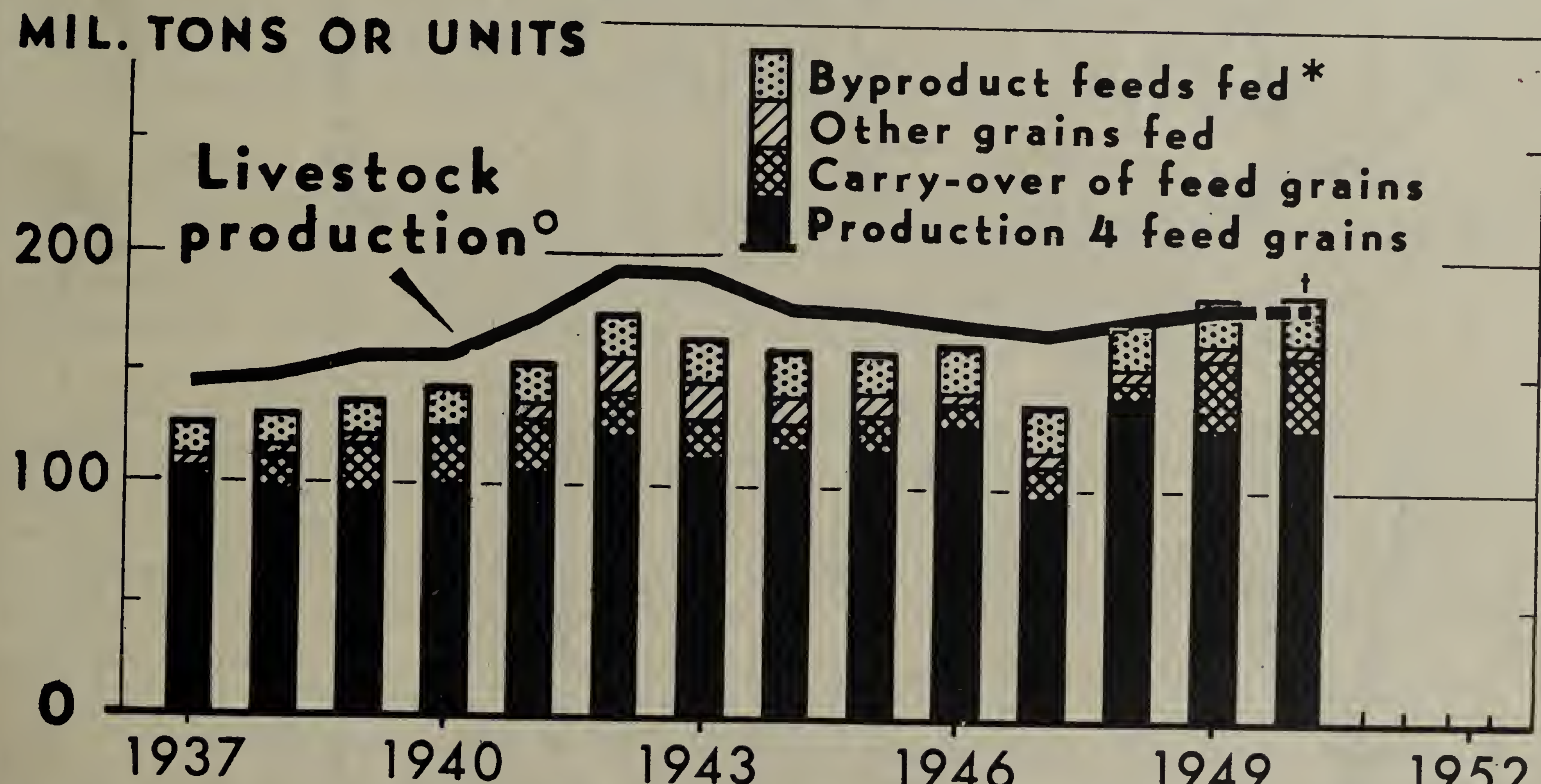
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-44 BAE OCTOBER 1950

FEED SUPPLY AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

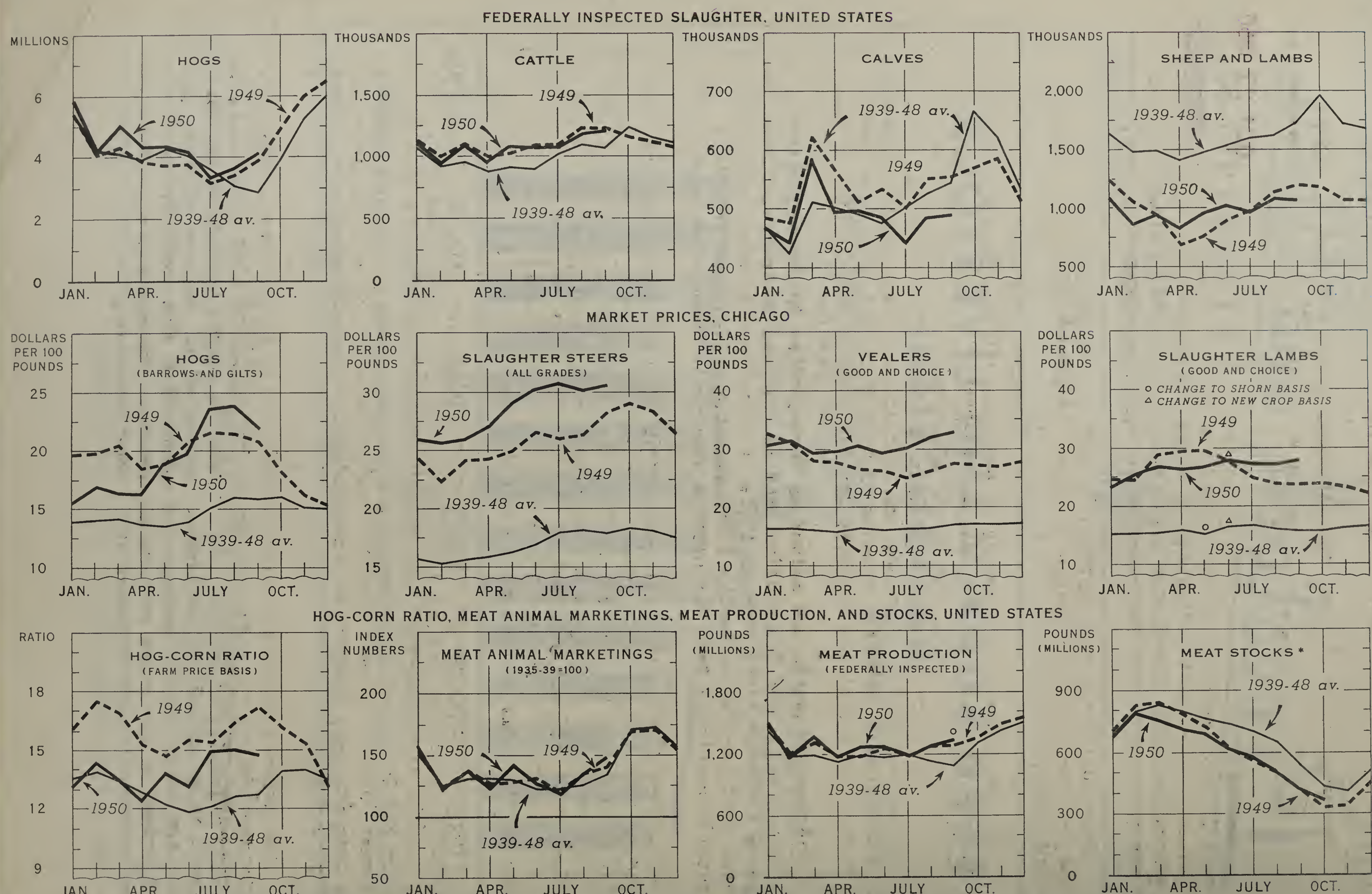


*CONCENTRATE SUPPLY °UNITS, WEIGHTED BY GRAIN REQUIREMENTS †INDICATED OCTOBER 1

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46868-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Another big feed supply—and prospects for another moderate increase in production of livestock and livestock products—is the situation at the beginning of the 1950–51 feeding year. The 1950 crops of feed grains were large, little more grain than last year has been carried over in farm and Government Stocks. With growing numbers of cattle on farms and of hogs raised, and with demand very strong, livestock production may increase enough next year to utilize all the 1950 crops and result in some reduction in the big carryover. It would be the third successive increase in aggregate livestock production.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
o ESTIMATED

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 18, 1950

SUMMARY

Meat production is expected to increase next year. The increase may be a little greater than the average of the past three years. Production in 1951 will be sufficient to supply somewhat larger military requirements and also provide for a civilian consumption of about 3 pounds more per capita than the 145 pounds expected to be consumed in 1950.

Practically all the increase in meat production next year will be in beef and pork. Little change is likely in production of veal or of lamb and mutton.

Present uptrends in numbers of hogs and cattle, the ample feed supply, and the strong demand for meat in prospect all point to an increase in meat production next year. The yearly pig crops have grown from 83 million head in 1946 to approximately 99 million in 1950. The spring crop in 1951 may continue the upward trend and may be about 5 percent larger than the 1950 spring crop. Slaughter weights of hogs this fall are a few pounds heavier than last fall and slightly heavier weights may continue in 1951.

Numbers of cattle and calves on farms, after increasing slightly in 1948, showed a gain of 2.0 million head in 1949 and a somewhat larger increase is probably being made in 1950. The increase in beef production expected next year would be the first significant increase in cattle slaughtered resulting from the present upswing in numbers on farms.

Feed supplies are ample. The supply of concentrates for the 1950-51 feeding year is nearly as large as in the year just completed. The 1950 crop of feed grains is a little smaller than the 1949 crop, but the storage carry-over of these grains is a little larger than last year. Supplies of byproduct feeds are not expected to be much different from last year. The supply of hay is very large. The 1950 crop is the second largest ever cut, and the total supply per roughage consuming animal unit is record high.

The 1950 corn crop is 260 million bushels below last year's crop and the quality is not as good as last year. Some corn will probably be withdrawn from storage stocks of both "free" corn and resealed old corn to provide for the increased livestock production this coming year. Although the price must reach or exceed the loan rate in order to draw appreciable supplies from storage, feed costs probably will not be unfavorable for livestock production.

New defense activities will probably bring larger consumer incomes and stronger demand for meat next year. But prices of meat animals may be only moderately higher than in 1950, since the larger production in prospect will be an offsetting influence. Prices of all classes of meat animals are likely to be higher. Any substantial rise would put meat animal prices in the range subject to control. Minimum control levels are generally near the actual prices of October this year.

OUTLOOK FOR MEAT IN 1951

Production of meat in 1951 is expected to be 3 to 5 percent larger than in 1950. Increases are quite likely for both beef and pork, but less so for veal. The larger supply of meat will provide for larger military requirements and will probably also allow for a small per capita increase for the civilian population.

Larger meat production next year is made possible by the recent expansion in numbers of hogs and cattle on farms and by ample feed supplies, and is encouraged by the stepped-up demand for meat that began last spring and which is expected to continue in 1951. Production may increase a little more next year than in each of the last two years.

An increase in production in 1951 would follow the gradual uptrend of the past few years. Since early in 1948, production has increased at about the same rate as the population, with the result that average consumption per person has been nearly steady except for seasonal variations. Annual consumption has held at around 145 pounds per person (tables 1, 2).

Production of pork may be up 5 to 7 percent next year. The recent increase in the demand for meat will have more effect on production of pork than of other meats, showing up both in larger pig crops and in heavier average slaughter weights of hogs in 1951. The spring pig crop this year was 3 percent above the previous spring crop, and the 1950 fall crop according to June 1 intentions may be 5 percent larger than last fall. Next spring's crop may show an increase of around 5 percent.

Table 1.- Total meat production by kind and civilian consumption per person, United States, 1937-41 average, by years 1942-51

Year	Meat production 1/					Civilian consumption	
	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excl. lard	Total	Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Pounds
1937-41 av.	7,195	1,022	884	8,573	17,674	17,599	133.8
1942	8,843	1,151	1,042	10,876	21,912	18,451	139.5
1943	8,571	1,167	1,104	13,640	24,482	18,921	146.0
1944	9,112	1,738	1,024	13,304	25,178	19,827	153.5
1945	10,275	1,661	1,054	10,697	23,687	18,737	144.4
1946	9,373	1,440	970	11,173	22,956	21,367	153.4
1947	10,428	1,599	802	10,601	23,430	22,236	155.0
1948	9,079	1,412	750	10,205	21,446	21,258	145.4
1949	9,448	1,322	607	10,333	21,710	21,381	143.9
1950 2/	9,580	1,293	608	10,939	22,420	21,960	145.1
1951 3/	9,800	1,300	570	11,700	23,370	---	147.9

1/ Carcass weight equivalent of meat produced from total United States slaughter.
2/ Partly forecast.
3/ Forecast.

Beef production may be a little larger in 1951 than in 1950. For the past two or three years the number of cattle on farms has been increasing, but the number slaughtered each year has been nearly constant. In 1951, an increase in slaughter -- probably a rather small one -- may be realized.

Calf slaughter, which has declined for several years as cattle numbers were expanded, may not have reached its low point in 1950. Next year's slaughter, and the quantity of veal produced, is likely to be about equal to that of 1950.

Supplies of lamb and mutton, already at a record low, will continue small next year. It is possible that production of these two meats in 1951 may be even smaller than in 1950, if sheepmen withhold an unusually large proportion of lambs to rebuild flocks.

Table 2.- Meat production by class of slaughter, and meat consumption, by quarter-years, 1948-50

Period	Production: Commercial: Federally inspected	Production: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Production: Commercial: Total	Production: Farm	Production: Total	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per person
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Pounds
1948							
Jan.-Mar.	3,757	1,244	5,001	---	---	5,539	38.1
Apr.-June	3,426	1,187	4,613	---	---	5,220	35.7
July-Sept.	3,240	1,018	4,258	---	---	4,883	33.4
Oct.-Dec.	4,298	1,133	5,431	---	---	5,616	38.2
Year	14,721	4,582	19,303	2,143	21,446	21,258	145.4
1949							
Jan.-Mar.	3,962	1,058	5,020	---	---	5,477	37.1
Apr.-June	3,580	957	4,537	---	---	5,177	34.9
July-Sept.	3,707	997	4,704	---	---	5,145	34.6
Oct.-Dec.	4,383	1,070	5,453	---	---	5,582	37.3
Year	15,632	4,082	19,714	1,996	21,710	21,381	143.9
1950							
Jan.-Mar.	4,009	1,063	5,072	---	---	5,619	37.4
Apr.-June	3,741	996	4,737	---	---	5,338	35.3
July-Sept. 1/	3,817	1,001	4,818	---	---	5,170	34.1
Oct.-Dec. 1/	4,672	1,139	5,811	---	---	5,833	38.3
Year 1/	16,239	4,199	20,438	---	22,420	21,960	145.1

1/ Partly forecast.

Greater Increase Than Indicated Possible in 1951 Meat Supply

More meat than now indicated to be in prospect could be produced in 1951 if emergency requirements should necessitate it. Reserve supplies of feed could be utilized for the purpose, if additional feeding were encouraged by exceptionally favorable market trends or by special incentives such as those developed in the early 1940's. A production increase would be most feasible for hogs. This is true not only because hog numbers can be expanded faster than can other kinds of meat animals, but also because slaughter weights of hogs could be increased relatively more than weights of cattle or lambs.

Average slaughter weights of hogs have been declining for several years (table 3). An increase of several pounds in 1951 would add considerably to total pork production. However, feeding to heavier weights does not give proportionally larger returns because a large proportion of the increase obtained would be fat cuts and lard which are much less valuable products than lean pork.

A large increase in the supply of beef could be achieved in 1951 only by substantially increasing the slaughter of cattle that otherwise would be available for slaughter in later years. Further increases in slaughter weights from the current high levels do not seem likely.

Unusual weather conditions could affect the supply of meat in 1951. A severe drought, although not expected, would tend to force liquidation of herds and thus increase substantially the number of cattle and calves slaughtered and the quantity of beef and veal produced. Unusually favorable weather could result in more cattle being held on farms and ranches and fewer slaughtered than is now anticipated.

Table 3.- Average live weight per head for meat animals slaughtered under Federal inspection, 1938-49 and indicated 1950

Year	Cattle: All cattle	Cattle: Steers	Cattle: Cows	Cattle: Heifers	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1938	921	---			189	85	233
1939	943	994			191	86	235
1940	940	992	---		191	86	232
1941	961	1,010	---		196	88	241
1942	954	1,001	---		208	89	245
1943	955	980	---		207	91	254
1944	924	954	932	767	218	89	244
1945	948	978	952	798	214	94	265
1946	943	960	953	812	199	94	255
1947	928	937	945	802	209	94	254
1948	945	968	948	813	209	94	253
1949	976	994	986	827	209	94	248
1950	983	990	1,003	822	212	97	246

Compiled from data of Livestock Branch, PMA.

Foreign Trade and Military Requirements Will Be Comparatively Minor, Under Peace

United States foreign trade in meat in 1949 and 1950 has been small in relation to total domestic production. Compared with the production this year at about 22,500 million pounds, imports will be around 300 million pounds, carcass weight equivalent, and exports will be about one-half that much. Although imports may be expected to increase, United States foreign trade will likely be comparatively small again in 1951, unless large overseas supply programs should develop.

Military requirements for meat in the last few years have been about 500 million pounds annually. Larger armed forces will require considerably more meat in 1951, but under peacetime conditions the increase in military requirements next year will be less than the increase in supply available.

Some Upward Pressure on Prices in 1951

Prices of meat and meat animals, always responsive to changes in consumer incomes, are expected to be higher next year if defense expenditures substantially increase consumer disposable incomes. Whether prices will go up much or little depends on the effect of military expenditures on the national economy. Assuming no serious inflation, prices of meat and meat animals may rise only moderately, because the larger meat production in prospect would be a restraining influence.

Demand for Meat Again Above Normal Relationship to Incomes

Prices of meats and meat animals sometimes change rapidly because of a shifting relationship of demand for meat to total consumer incomes. Under certain kinds of inflationary pressures, the retail value of meat consumed -- an indicator of demand -- rises more than does incomes. This was the experience in the summer of 1948 and again in the summer of 1950. Preliminary data indicate that the retail value of meat consumed in the third quarter of 1950 was 8 percent greater than in the same quarter of 1949. Disposable personal income was up by a smaller percentage. In 1949 the retail value of meat was down to the prewar average relationship to incomes, but in most of 1950 it has been above the prewar normal (table 4).

There are several reasons why consumers alter their demand for meat relative to their incomes -- reasons having to do with their relative preferences when their incomes change, and involving the various pricing mechanisms for foods and for industrial products and investment items.

Under conditions likely to prevail in 1951, demand for meat probably will remain high relative to incomes. As noted above, it is likely to be strong enough that prices will trend higher despite larger supplies.

Table 4.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by years 1937-41, 1947-50

Year 1/	Average retail price of meat per pound 2/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 3/: Value	Retail value of meat consumed per person 3/: Index number 1935-39=100	Disposable personal income per person: Value	Disposable personal income per person: Index number 1935-39=100	Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
	Cents	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1937	28.9	31.30	107.5	548	107.5	5.7
1938	25.5	27.90	95.8	501	98.3	5.6
1939	24.6	28.40	97.5	533	104.6	5.3
1940	22.9	28.40	97.6	570	111.8	5.0
1941	26.8	33.30	114.4	686	134.5	4.9
1947	56.2	75.34	258.9	1,170	229.4	6.4
1948	62.6	78.88	271.1	1,278	250.6	6.2
1949	56.8	70.74	243.1	1,249	244.9	5.7
1950 4/	56.9	73.16	251	1,292	253	5.7

1/ War years omitted because price control and other circumstances prevented normal relationships between prices and income.
2/ Weighted average of retail prices of all important cuts. This weights the price for each meat in each year by the quantity consumed in that year.
3/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each meat consumed per civilian consumer.
4/ First half of 1950 at seasonally adjusted annual rate.

Price Controls Could Affect Prices of Meat and Meat Animals

Price controls, if applied, would have a direct effect on prices of meat and meat animals in 1951. Under the Defense Production Act of 1950, price ceilings can be no lower than either the highest price received between May 24 and June 24, 1950, or the parity price, whichever is higher, as adjusted for season, grade and location. Under this rule, minimum ceilings on beef cattle, veal calves and lambs would be determined by the highest actual prices in the May 24-June 24 period, since prices received by farmers have been well above parity. In the next year, parity is likely to be a factor only in the formula for hogs. As of the middle of September, prices of meat animals were generally not far from the minimum ceilings applicable under the price control act. Although at present price levels minimum ceilings would have little effect, any substantial increases in prices from these levels would put prices in the range subject to control.

If the outlook for somewhat higher prices in 1951 proves correct, ceilings imposed at their minimum level would likely have some effect.

Table 5.- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of meat animals, by years, 1946-49, by months 1950

Period	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Choice and Prime	Good	Medium	Common	All grades	Cows, Chicago, Good grade	Vealers, Chicago, Good and Choice	Stocker & feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	Barrows & gilts, all weights, Chicago	Lambs: Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
1946	20.24	19.32	17.36	13.75	19.13	15.04	16.87	15.87	18.42	18.65	10.46	8.25
1947	30.64	26.22	21.76	18.04	25.83	18.48	24.98	20.81	25.21	23.59	20.76	9.17
1948	35.24	30.96	26.31	22.16	30.88	23.18	29.02	25.54	23.27	25.96	22.36	11.59
1949	28.65	26.07	23.17	19.77	25.80	18.79	27.64	21.34	18.62	25.45	23.06	10.83
1950												
Jan.	36.80	28.14	24.13	20.44	25.98	17.50	30.66	22.94	15.54	23.20	23.64	12.22
Feb.	34.70	27.19	24.13	21.55	25.58	19.27	31.23	24.13	16.85	25.32	25.12	13.04
Mar.	32.24	27.33	24.51	22.13	25.90	20.60	29.39	25.32	16.41	26.38	26.59	13.99
Apr.	30.94	27.66	25.21	22.99	26.94	21.00	29.46	25.79	16.33	26.54	---	13.18
May	31.34	29.19	27.10	24.44	29.02	22.92	30.58	27.19	18.96	26.89	---	10.96
June	31.34	29.99	27.86	24.68	30.13	22.98	29.22	27.44	19.68	27.35	---	8.99
July	31.63	30.62	28.68	24.16	30.67	23.63	30.10	27.48	23.55	27.37	---	9.32
Aug.	31.37	29.97	28.02	23.51	30.09	23.07	31.84	26.90	23.86	27.21	27.42	11.51
Sept.	32.00	30.32	28.07	24.08	30.57	23.29	32.95	26.90	21.81	27.72	28.50	13.01

1/ Average for all weights and grades.

Data for earlier years may be found in the Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1950, pp. 42-44.

Longer-Term Trends Are for Lower Prices Under Stable Incomes.

If personal incomes level off toward the end of 1951, prices of meat and meat animals might show gradual declines relatively soon thereafter. The declines would be adjustments to the increases in production as well as to some changes in demand. Hog prices in the spring of 1950 were down considerably from levels reached in the summer of 1948. Cattle and sheep prices have held more nearly level (table 5). In the next period of relatively stable incomes, some further reduction in hog prices might occur. Cattle prices would be the next to trend downward. Due to rising numbers of cattle on farms and in numbers slaughtered, prices may drop considerably when increasing personal incomes are no longer a counteracting factor. Prices of sheep and lambs are probably in the strongest long-time position. Numbers of these animals are so small that consumer demand is likely to take all lamb and mutton production at relatively high prices for quite a long time to come.

FEED SUPPLIES FOR 1950

Feed supplies continue abundant. The supply of concentrate feeds -- feed grains, wheat and rye fed, and byproduct feeds -- for the 1950-51 year is estimated at 180 million tons. This is 2 million tons less than the supply in the 1949-50 year just ended, and is a near all-time record feed supply (table 6).

The supply of hay is also large. The 1950 crop was estimated at 108 million tons in October, the second largest crop ever cut. With a carry-over of 15 million tons last May 1, the total supply is 123 million tons, second only to the 124.4 million tons in 1945. In terms of the number of roughage-consuming livestock to be fed, which are fewer than in 1945, the current hay supply is the largest ever.

The 1950-51 feed supply will provide for all the livestock production in prospect for the coming year, and would permit even greater production.

Of the 180 million tons of concentrates estimated as the 1950-51 supply, 155 million tons are feed grains (corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums). Last year, the feed grain supply including small quantities imported was 157 million tons. A little less of the supply this year than last was obtained from the current crop, and slightly more from carry-over. The 1950 corn crop, although larger than any crop raised before 1946, is 260 million bushels smaller than the 1949 crop. The 1950 crops of oats, barley and grain sorghums were all above those of 1949, but their combined increase was less than the decrease in the corn crop.

The livestock production in prospect for 1951 will probably draw on some of the feed grain reserves, particularly of corn. The 1950 corn crop of 3,118 million bushels is a little below the approximately 3,300 million bushels used domestically and exported in the 1949-50 year and probably will be less than the prospective total utilization expected in 1950-51 by 200 to 300 million bushels. Reserves of both "free" corn and resealed corn from crops of previous years will probably be drawn on.

Table 6.- Feed concentrate balance, units of livestock production, and animal units fed, feeding year beginning October, 1939-50

Item	Unit	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Supply							
Production, 4 feed grains 1/	Mil.tons	95.8	98.6	105.1	120.8	112.1	116.7
Stocks beginning of crop year 2/	Mil.tons	20.7	22.8	23.1	18.5	17.8	11.6
Wheat and rye fed	Mil.tons	4.9	2.7	5.6	12.7	13.7	8.7
Other grains fed 3/	Mil.tons	.2	.3	.3	2.3	2.1	1.9
Byproduct feeds for feed	Mil.tons	14.9	16.3	16.7	18.5	18.8	19.0
Total supply	Mil.tons	136.5	140.7	150.8	172.8	164.5	157.9
Utilization							
Concentrates fed	Mil.tons	102.7	108.2	118.7	142.3	138.8	128.9
Other uses	Mil.tons	11.1	11.2	13.6	13.3	12.8	15.2
Total utilization	Mil.tons	113.8	119.4	132.3	155.6	151.6	144.1
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	Mil.tons	113.7	117.6	132.3	155.0	152.9	143.0
Stocks at end of crop year	Mil.tons	22.8	23.1	18.5	17.8	11.6	14.9
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Millions	156.0	156.0	167.3	192.4	193.2	173.7
Units of livestock production	do.	153.4	155.3	170.0	193.5	191.3	176.4

Item	Unit	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 4/
Supply							
Production, 4 feed grains 1/	Mil.tons	114.4	124.3	95.4	138.3	125.8	123.4
Stocks beginning of crop year 2/	Mil.tons	14.9	10.9	13.8	7.7	30.3	31.0
Wheat and rye fed	Mil.tons	8.0	4.4	5.9	4.2	5.0	5.0
Other grains fed 3/	Mil.tons	.2	.1	.1	.6	.8	1.0
Byproduct feeds for feed	Mil.tons	17.7	19.5	19.0	20.0	20.5	20.2
Total supply	Mil.tons	155.2	159.2	134.2	170.8	182.4	180.6
Utilization							
Concentrates fed	Mil.tons	133.3	124.2	112.1	124.0	132.9	135.1
Other uses of feed grains	Mil.tons	13.3	19.3	13.6	17.7	17.2	19.0
Total utilization	Mil.tons	146.6	143.5	125.7	141.7	150.1	154.1
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	Mil.tons	144.3	145.4	126.5	140.5	151.4	155.6
Stocks at end of crop year	Mil.tons	10.9	13.8	7.7	30.3	31.0	25.0
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Millions	167.8	161.4	155.7	162.7	169.0	170.0
Units of livestock production	do.	174.8	169.6	165.0	171.4	177.0	179.0

1/ Corn, oats, barley and sorghum grains.
2/ Stocks in all positions of corn October 1, and oats and barley July 1.
3/ Imported grain fed.
4/ Partly forecast.

Corn moves out of sealed reserves in volume when prices reach or exceed the loan rate. A considerable quantity of corn has been withdrawn from price support since July. Further withdrawals appear likely during the latter part of the October-September feeding year. The price may be below the loan rate during the remaining months of 1950 but a rising price is expected during the winter. The year-average price for corn is expected to be higher than in 1949-50 and may about equal the loan rate.

If livestock production should expand more than now seems likely, the price of corn would probably move farther above the loan rate. If crop conditions are normal no extreme advance would occur in 1950-51, however, because corn reserves are large. An increased demand for feed has less effect on prices when sizable reserves are on hand than when they are lacking, for in the latter case feeders must bid competitively for the limited supply available.

The quality of the 1950 corn crop is not so good as in the past two years. Due to late planting dates and a cool growing season, there is considerable soft corn in some areas of the Corn Belt.

The supply of byproduct feeds is expected to be about as large in the 1950-51 feeding year as in the year just ended. Reductions in output of cottonseed, linseed and peanut meals will be offset by an increase in soybean meal. However, because the supply of byproduct feeds is likely to be little if any larger than in 1949-50, the increase in livestock production expected in the year ahead will necessarily come entirely from use of more feed grains, hay, and pasture.

THE OUTLOOK FOR HOGS IN 1951

Hog Production Likely to Expand Further

Prospects are for hog production to be expanded again next year. The 1951 spring pig crop may be up about 5 percent from the 1950 spring crop of 60 million pigs, and the 1951 spring and fall crops combined may pass the 100-million mark.

The annual pig crop has increased from 83 million pigs saved in 1946 -- then a six-year low -- to 99 million in 1950, a peacetime record. The only larger crops were those of two war years, when extra production was encouraged to fill special wartime needs.

The additional hog production in prospect for 1951 is traceable almost entirely to strengthened demand for meat and a favorable feeding ratio. Were it not for the increase in demand this spring and summer and its expected continuation in 1951, hog production would probably have leveled off in the coming year. Postwar adjustments in hog numbers preceeded those for cattle and sheep. Not only had hog numbers increased rapidly from their postwar low, but slaughter weights had returned close to prewar averages, and prices had been reduced substantially. The average

weight of hogs slaughtered commercially dropped from 248 pounds in 1947 to about 239 pounds in 1950. The price of hogs received by farmers in March this year was $16.10 per 100 pounds, a reduction of $10.00, or almost 40 percent, from the March price three years earlier. This big change in price was caused mainly by a scaling down of demand. Demand for lean pork fell off considerably after hitting a postwar peak and demand for fatty cuts and lard dropped a good deal more. The price of lard in March this year was about 60 percent below the March 1947 price.

Table 7.- Pig crops and hog slaughter, average 1937-41, by years 1942-51

Year	Pig crop: Spring	Pig crop: Fall	Pig crop: Total	Hog slaughter 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Average:				
1937-41	46,801	30,428	77,229	65,642
1942	61,093	43,810	104,903	78,547
1943	74,223	47,584	121,807	95,226
1944	55,754	30,905	86,659	98,068
1945	52,189	34,593	86,782	71,891
1946	52,392	30,548	82,940	76,244
1947	52,802	31,345	84,147	74,710
1948	51,266	33,921	85,187	71,936
1949	58,426	37,262	95,688	75,293
1950	60,079	2/39,000	2/ 99,079	3/80,570
1951				4/84,900

1/ Total, including farm slaughter, for the same calendar year.
2/ Based on farmers' intentions for fall farrowing as reported June 1, and on a 1939-48 average size of litter for the fall crop with allowance for trend. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.
3/ Partly forecast.
4/ Forcast.

Slaughter Weights
May be Heavier

If consumers' incomes rise as anticipated in the forthcoming year, adding to demand for meat, average slaughter weights of hogs may be expected to be heavier than this year. The continuation of favorable prices for hogs would encourage producers to hold them for heavy weights since there would be less risk of a sharp price break during the longer feeding period.

Based on the present scale of hog production and that expected next year, with allowance for slightly heavier slaughter weights, pork production appears likely to be 5 to 7 percent higher in 1951 than in 1950. The increase may be fairly uniform, season for season throughout the year. Production early in 1951 will reflect the 3 percent increase over a year earlier in the 1950 spring pig crop, together with some increase in slaugter.

weights. Production in the spring and summer reflect the size of the 1950 fall crop, for which an increase of 5 percent over that of the previous year was indicated last June. In the fall of 1951 an increase in the 1951 spring crop, which may be around 5 percent, will show up in pork production.

Pork production could probably be expanded more than now indicated in 1951, if conditions warranted. The most immediate result could come by holding hogs to heavier slaughter weights. A serious disadvantage is the higher proportion of fat--the less valuable product--in the heavier carcasses. The more desirable, but slower, method is to raise more hogs for slaughter at average weights.

Stronger Demand May Bring Some Increase in Price

Demand may be strong enough next year to lift prices of hogs moderately above their 1950 level. The margin of increase would be substantial in the early months, since prices in those months of 1950 were comparatively low. In late 1951, the gain over 1950 would be smaller, unless demand should continue on a steadily upward course and no price controls are invoked. The possible effects of price control are discussed on page 6.

This outlook is based on the assumption that demand for pork and lard relative to consumers' incomes has returned to a more normal relationship. If this is correct, each increment in incomes this next year would add to the demand for pork. A rising trend in incomes would therefore result in somewhat higher prices despite a moderate increase in the number of hogs produced.

At the prices for hogs in prospect, the corn-hog ratio will probably remain substantially above average. It has been above average each month since June 1948.

THE OUTLOOK FOR BEEF CATTLE IN 1951

Increase in Both Cattle Slaughter and Number on Farms in Prospect for 1951

Prospects are that somewhat more cattle will be slaughtered next year than in 1950, and that if range conditions continue favorable cattle inventory numbers will also be increased. Most of the expected increase in slaughter will probably occur in the second half of the year. A gain in cattle slaughter next year would be the first of any appreciable size since numbers on farms began to climb in 1948. Numbers on farms have now expanded sufficiently to provide for a moderate increase in slaughter and a further increase in inventory next year.

The cattle industry has been operating at a high level of production for several years. The calf crop in 1949 was at the high percentage of 85 per 100 cows, and a good crop was probably obtained in 1950. The number of calves slaughtered has been declining each year since 1947, thus providing more animals for addition to breeding herds or for slaughter later as mature cattle. Moreover, average slaughter weights for cattle have been heavier than average. Not only have large numbers of steers been fed to high finish and heavy weight, but the average weight of cows slaughtered under Federal inspection in 1950 has been the heaviest since records began in 1944, and heifer weights also have been heavier than usual.

Table 8.- Number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, calf crop, and number slaughtered, average 1937-41, annual 1942-50

Year	Number of cattle and calves on farms January 1: All cattle and calves	For milk: Total	For milk: Cows	Not for milk: Total	Not for milk: Cows	Calf crop	Number slaughtered: Cattle	Number slaughtered: Calves
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1937-41 av.	67,488	35,814	24,822	31,674	10,569	29,291	15,215	9,428
1942	76,025	38,837	26,313	37,188	12,578	34,388	18,033	9,718
1943	81,204	40,240	27,138	40,964	13,980	34,797	17,845	9,940
1944	85,334	41,257	27,704	44,077	15,521	37,040	19,844	14,242
1945	85,573	40,849	27,770	44,724	16,456	35,176	21,691	13,645
1946	82,434	39,093	26,695	43,341	16,319	34,489	19,824	12,168
1947	81,207	38,469	26,098	42,739	16,469	35,234	22,393	13,695
1948	78,126	37,175	25,039	40,951	16,000	33,708	19,186	12,328
1949	78,298	36,528	24,416	41,770	15,982	34,537	18,789	11,345
1950 1/	80,277	37,265	24,625	43,012	16,786		2/18,900	2/10,900

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Partly estimated.

Since the meat output of the cattle industry is high in relation to current inventory numbers there is less likelihood of attaining a further increase in beef production than is the case with hogs. The possibility of increasing production through heavier weights offers little promise. More than the moderate increase in beef production now indicated for 1951 could be realized only at the expense of reducing cattle numbers and thus potential production in future years.

After rising only slightly in 1948, numbers of cattle and calves increased 2.0 million head during 1949. At least another 2 million and possibly around 3 million will be added to herds in 1950. Except when halted by drought, most upswings in cattle numbers have lasted for several years. This previous experience, together with prospects that demand will continue strong, indicates that cattle and calf numbers will probably increase further in 1951. If conditions remain favorable, numbers may continue to increase for several years.

Table 9.- Specified average prices and costs in the feeding of steers in the Corn Belt, 1941-50

Item	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50
	Season								
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Average price per 100 pounds for Good grade beef steers sold out of first hand, Chicago, April-July	13.59	15.52	15.91	16.15	17.46	25.26	32.59	25.40	29.36
Subsidy per 100 pounds				.29	.38				
Average cost of feeder steers at Kansas City per 100 pounds, August-December	9.82	12.08	11.52	11.56	12.91	16.37	21.75	25.00	20.65
Average price per bushel of corn, North Central States, September-July	.711	.862	1.039	1.009	1.175	1.490	2.201	1.239	1.174
Average price per ton received by farmers for alfalfa hay, North Central States September-July 1/	10.45	11.31	16.34	17.39	15.54	22.37	24.37	25.25	21.68
Average wholesale price per ton for soybean meal, 41 percent protein, Chicago, September-July	41.61	41.21	51.90	52.00	58.32	76.78	94.19	74.06	75.85
	Total value								
Market value at Chicago of Good grade beef steers, market weight 1,050 pounds	142.70	162.96	167.06	169.58	183.33	265.23	342.20	266.70	308.28
Subsidy credit				3.04	3.99				
Market value plus subsidy	142.70	162.96	167.06	172.62	187.32	265.23	342.20	266.70	308.28
Market cost at Kansas City of 700 pound feeder steers	68.74	84.56	80.64	80.92	90.37	114.59	152.25	175.00	144.55
Cost of transportation from market to feeder	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.73	3.61	3.96
Cost of 45 bushels of corn	32.00	38.79	46.76	45.40	52.88	67.05	99.04	55.76	52.83
Cost of 0.75 tons of alfalfa hay	7.84	8.48	12.26	13.04	11.66	16.78	18.28	18.94	16.26
Cost of 150 pounds of soybean meal	3.12	3.09	3.89	3.90	4.37	5.76	7.06	5.55	5.69
Transportation and marketing expense	5.91	5.93	6.01	6.00	6.07	6.27	7.57	8.65	8.97
Total of cost items shown 2/	120.16	143.40	152.11	151.81	167.90	213.00	286.93	267.51	232.26
Margin of market value of steers over total of cost items shown 2/	22.54	19.56	14.95	20.81	19.42	52.23	55.27	-0.81	76.02

1/ Price for loose hay through 1945-46; for baled hay 1946-47 to date. Prices for 1946-47 and 1947-48 estimated from price paid for baled alfalfa hay, United States. 2/ Does not include overhead costs, cost of pasture or other feed ingredients and death loss, or credits for manure and for hogs following steers. The feed ration and prices shown are designed to be fairly representative of average feeding experience in the Corn Belt, but do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders. Data for earlier years may be found in October issue each year.

Other factors in this uptrend in cattle numbers are the prolonged decline in numbers of workstock, which compete for forage, the low numbers of sheep, and the expansion in cattle numbers in regions such as the South and the Corn Belt. Widespread drought in any of the major cattle producing areas would tend to cause some forced marketings of cattle, thereby increasing slaughter and reducing numbers on farms. Such a condition in 1951, while not expected, must be recognized as a possibility.

Cattle Feeding Due to Continue Large

The strong demand for beef and the ample supply of feed at close to last year's prices make a continued high level of cattle feeding likely this winter and through most or all of 1951. About the only factor restraining feeding operations is the limited supply of feeder cattle and calves. Probably in no previous year has the demand for cattle for breeding and for feeding competed so sharply. Evidence for this is the price of both breeding and feeding cattle. Occasionally this year prices of cows and heifers have exceeded even the very high prices in the summer of 1948. Prices of stocker and feeder steers this past summer were at record highs.

The movement of feeder cattle into feed lots since July 1 is substantially below the record movement of last year but higher than in most previous years. The fall run of cattle from the range areas is later than the unusually early movement last year and is expected to take place largely during October and November. The type of cattle reported in recent shipments indicate a continued tendency toward long-term feeding since a larger than usual proportion were light weight steers and calves.

A high percentage of grain-fed cattle in the slaughter supply will result in heavy average slaughter weights again in 1951 and will be important in maintaining both the quantity and quality of the beef supply for the year.

Returns from cattle feeding were unusually favorable during the 1949-50 feeding season. Feeder cattle prices in the fall of 1949 were below the average of the past few years, and feed costs were low in relation to the price of slaughter steers. Feeders who were able to take advantage of these low costs and sold fat cattle at the April-July average price realized unusually high returns on their feeding operations.

It is highly unlikely that returns from cattle feeding this winter and spring will be as large as they were this past feeding season. Prices of stocker and feeder cattle this fall have averaged about $7.00 per 100 pounds higher than a year earlier. For returns to match those of the past season, prices of cattle for slaughter would have to increase from present levels and be materially higher at the selling season next year than at the same time in 1950.

With the expected larger slaughter of cattle and output of beef, increases in personal incomes now in view for 1951 point to only moderate increases in prices of cattle. Another reason for expecting no great price rise is the greater likelihood for price controls to be put into effect if commodity price trends are sharply upward.

OUTLOOK FOR SHEEP AND LAMBS

Numbers About the Same; No Increase in Lamb and Mutton Production Likely Next Year

The numbers of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches next January 1 will not be greatly different from those of last January. If there is no reduction this year it will mark the end of a decline beginning in 1942, and during which total sheep numbers fell from a record high of 56.2 million head to a record low of 30.8 millions in 1950.

A small addition to numbers during 1951 appears probable. Resources are available for more sheep and prices are favorable. Production of lamb and mutton next year may be about equal to the 1950 production which was the smallest since 1925. Average consumption per person of 3.9 pounds in 1950, the lowest on record, would thus drop to a new low in 1951. Supplies of lamb and mutton can not be expected to increase much until sheep and lamb numbers have moved up considerably from their present point.

Table 10.- Sheep and lambs on farms and ranches January 1, number slaughtered during year and annual wool production, average 1937-41, annual 1942-50

Year	Number January 1: Stock sheep	On feed: Eleven Corn Belt States	On feed: All States	Total	Slaughter: Total	Slaughter: Sheep as percentage of total: Fed. insp. slaughter of sheep and lambs	Shorn wool production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Mil. lb.
1937-41 av.	45,879	3,223	5,979	51,857	21,874	6.7	367
1942	49,346	3,844	6,867	56,213	25,585	13.0	388
1943	48,196	4,309	6,954	55,150	27,073	21.0	379
1944	44,270	3,962	6,512	50,782	25,356	16.5	338
1945	39,609	4,354	6,911	46,520	24,639	20.9	308
1946	35,599	4,215	6,837	42,436	22,814	16.8	280
1947	32,125	3,693	5,693	37,818	18,766	13.8	253
1948	29,976	2,843	4,851	34,827	17,439	16.3	234
1949	27,651	2,468	4,003	31,654	13,872	10.3	217
1950 1/	27,064	2,384	3,733	30,797	13,500	11.0	218

1/ Preliminary estimates. Slaughter partly forecast.

Prices of lambs have been steady this summer and fall, showing no seasonal decline of note, and are several dollars per cwt. above last fall's prices. Since there is a continuing demand for the small supply of lamb and mutton, a strong price position for sheep and lambs seems assured, not only for next year but in the longer future as well. Prices will probably advance next year in line with the rise in personal incomes. Prices of wool have risen sharply this year and in September the price received by farmers, at 62.2 cents per pound, was 15.3 cents per pound above a year earlier and 2.2 cents above the previous high in 1918. Wool production in this country will necessarily remain low until sheep and lamb numbers are increased. Moreover, United States and world stocks of wool have been reduced in recent years and wool is regarded as strategically important. The price outlook is fully as favorable for wool as for sheep and lambs.

THE OUTLOOK FOR HORSES AND MULES

Numbers Still Going Down

Substitution of tractor power for horses and mules goes on apace. Horse numbers were reduced by 588,000 head in 1949, and the 5.3 million on farms January 1, 1950 were only one-fourth those of thirty years ago. Numbers are decreasing again in 1950. Although a floor to numbers will eventually be reached, the small colt crops of the past several years indicate that it is not yet in sight.

Numbers of mules have been reduced less relative to their inventories than have numbers of horses. Prices of mules also have been maintained better than have prices of horses. Average mule prices on January 1, 1950 were 26 percent lower than five years earlier, but prices of horses were down 30 percent.

Table 11.- Horses and mules: Number on farms, January 1, by age groups, United States, average 1937-41, by years 1942-50

Year	Horses			Mules			Horses and mules		
	Under 1 year	Over 1 year	Total	Under 1 year	Over 1 year	Total	Under 1 year	Over 1 year	Total
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	647	10,074	10,721	114	4,049	4,163	761	14,123	14,884
1942	503	9,370	9,873	130	3,652	3,782	633	13,022	13,655
1943	402	9,203	9,605	112	3,514	3,626	514	12,717	13,231
1944	364	8,828	9,192	98	3,323	3,421	462	12,151	12,613
1945	313	8,402	8,715	87	3,148	3,235	400	11,550	11,950
1946	240	7,813	8,053	65	2,945	3,010	305	10,758	11,063
1947	207	7,042	7,249	51	2,721	2,772	258	9,763	10,021
1948	188	6,401	6,589	41	2,500	2,541	229	8,901	9,130
1949	170	5,728	5,898	30	2,318	2,348	200	8,046	8,246
1950 1/	142	5,168	5,310	22	2,131	2,153	164	7,299	7,463

1/ Preliminary.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Sept. 1949	Jan.-Sept. 1950	1949 Sept.	1950 Aug.	1950 Sept.
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	27.41	32.48	31.33	31.37	32.00
Good	do.	25.36	28.93	28.22	29.97	30.32
Medium	do.	22.90	26.41	23.01	28.02	28.07
Common	do.	19.99	23.11	17.83	23.51	24.08
All grades	do.	25.17	28.32	28.11	30.09	30.57
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.02	27.04	25.95	29.10	29.67
Sioux City, all grades	do.	23.96	27.24	26.52	29.16	29.83
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	19.22	21.58	18.22	23.07	23.29
Common	do.	2/15.84	18.60	2/14.44	20.11	20.26
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/14.79	16.09	3/13.55	17.72	17.42
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.78	30.60	27.40	31.84	32.95
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	22.04	26.01	19.74	26.90	26.90
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	20.21	22.53	19.70	24.10	24.70
Veal calves	do.	23.34	25.62	21.90	27.40	28.00
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.50	18.95	19.14	22.76	20.26
180-200 pounds	do.	20.91	19.58	20.31	23.90	21.45
200-220 pounds	do.	20.98	19.74	20.95	24.32	21.98
220-240 pounds	do.	20.80	19.65	21.20	24.33	22.30
240-270 pounds	do.	20.37	19.32	21.25	24.08	22.32
270-300 pounds	do.	19.71	18.82	20.91	23.35	22.09
All weights	do.	20.21	19.22	20.76	23.86	21.81
Seven markets 4/	do.	20.07	19.21	20.55	23.89	21.84
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.72	16.48	18.41	20.32	20.12
Price received by farmers	do.	19.08	18.21	19.80	21.60	21.10
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	15.0	13.3	15.8	15.6	14.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.9	13.9	17.1	15.0	14.7
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	10.89	11.80	8.94	11.51	13.01
Price received by farmers	do.	9.61	10.69	8.61	10.90	11.70
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.28	26.53	23.57	27.21	27.72
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	6/22.94	7/26.25	23.21	27.42	28.50
Price received by farmers	do.	23.17	24.04	21.60	24.90	25.60
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers						
(1910-14=100)		319	334	319	369	372
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	41.31	45.92	46.82	48.10	48.39
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	50.97	8/51.33	47.52	51.60	52.56
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	22.00	20.57	22.07	24.57	23.20
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.20	28.24	30.30	33.73	31.85
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.54	23.76	26.41	27.80	27.04
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.81	33.31	37.03	38.98	37.91
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Good grade	per pound	66.0	---	69.0	77.8	---
Lamb	do.	68.8	---	66.9	70.7	---
Pork, including lard	do.	41.9	---	44.5	46.0	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		225	---	230	258	---
Retail (1935-39=100)		230	---	242	258	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Average of prices for August and September.
7/ Average of prices for January, February, March, August and September.
8/ Average of 45-50 pound lambs for all months but January, July, August and September.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Sept. 1949	Jan.-Sept. 1950	1949 Sept.	1950 Aug.	1950 Sept.	1950 Oct.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		131	134	139	134	148	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	1,758	1,642	586	239	447	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,662	1,833	534	355	576	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	9,884	9,673	1,224	1,184	1,196	
Calves	do.	4,786	4,384	552	484	488	
Sheep and lambs	do.	8,846	8,771	1,180	1,076	1,063	
Hogs	do.	35,592	38,941	3,879	3,626	4,137	
Percentage sows	Percent	17		17	31		
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	979	2/984	956	974	2/973	
Calves	do.	201	2/204	247	241	2/246	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	2/ 97	91	93	2/ 93	
Hogs	do.	253	2/249	234	259	2/233	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	538	2/541	513	536	2/531	
Veal, per head	do.	112	2/114	135	134	2/136	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	2/ 46	43	44	2/ 43	
Pork, per head 3/	do.	142	2/139	134	144	2/135	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 3/	do.	56	2/ 56	57	55	2/ 57	
Lard, per head	do.	38	2/ 36	32	38	2/ 30	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	2/ 15	14	14	2/ 14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	5,290	2/5,222	625	632	2/647	
Veal	do.	535	2/ 499	74	65	2/ 68	
Lamb and mutton	do.	388	2/ 401	50	47	2/ 46	
Pork 3/	do.	5,036	2/5,395	518	519	2/565	
Lard	do.	1,333	2/1,397	123	136	2/124	
Total commercial slaughter 4/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	13,468	---	1,673	1,615	---	
Calves	do.	8,080	---	930	836	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	9,771	---	1,299	1,194	---	
Hogs	do.	43,201	---	4,729	4,435	---	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	6,902	---	821	828	---	
Veal	do.	904	---	121	108	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	426	---	55	52	---	
Pork 3/	do.	6,029	---	628	624	---	
Lard	do.	1,507	---	142	155	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	65	61	73	78
Veal	do.	---	---	7	6	7	8
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	6	6	6
Pork	do.	---	---	283	394	304	239
Total meat and meat products 5/	do.	---	---	451	543	466	406

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Estimated from weekly data.
3/ Excludes lard.
4/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
5/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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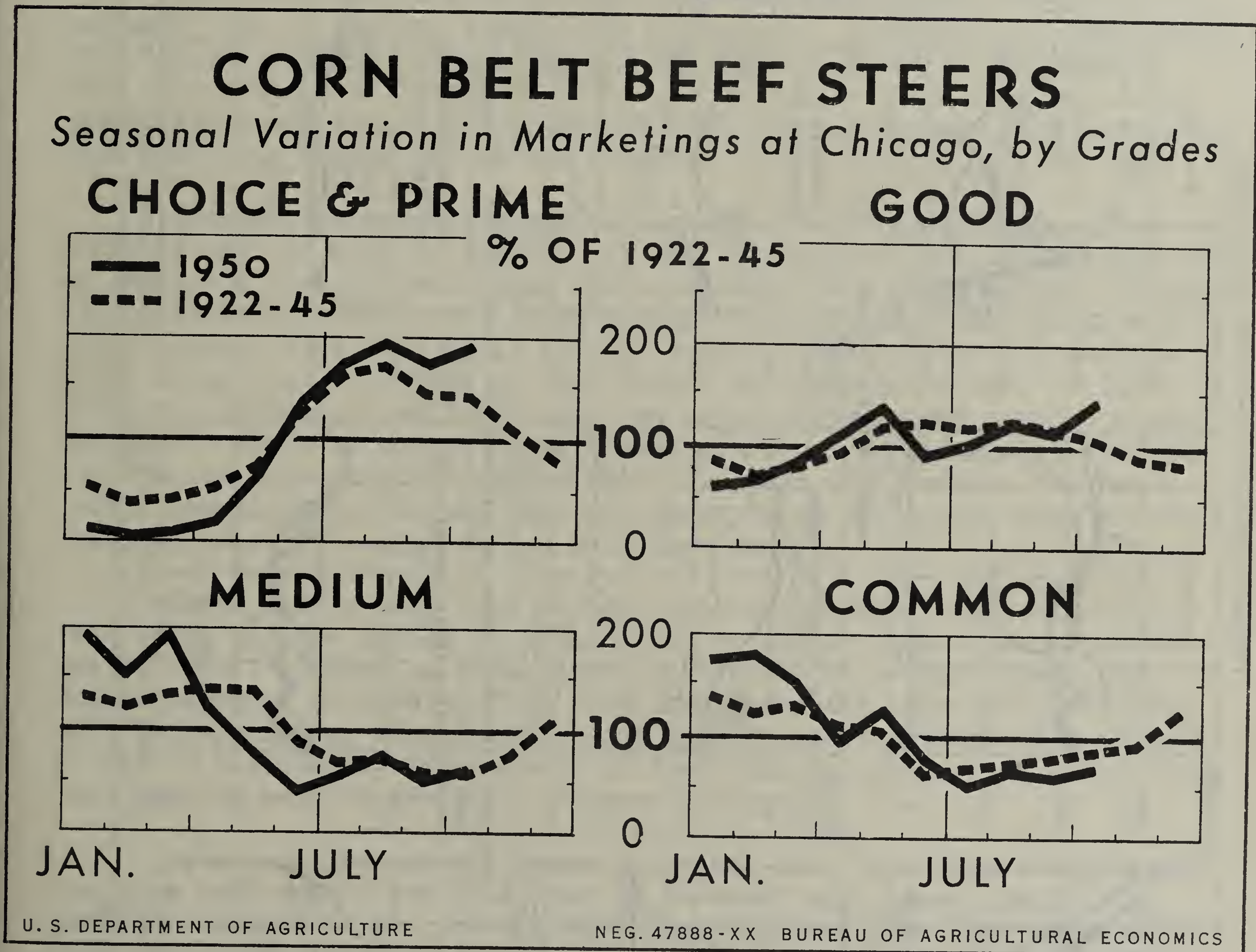
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

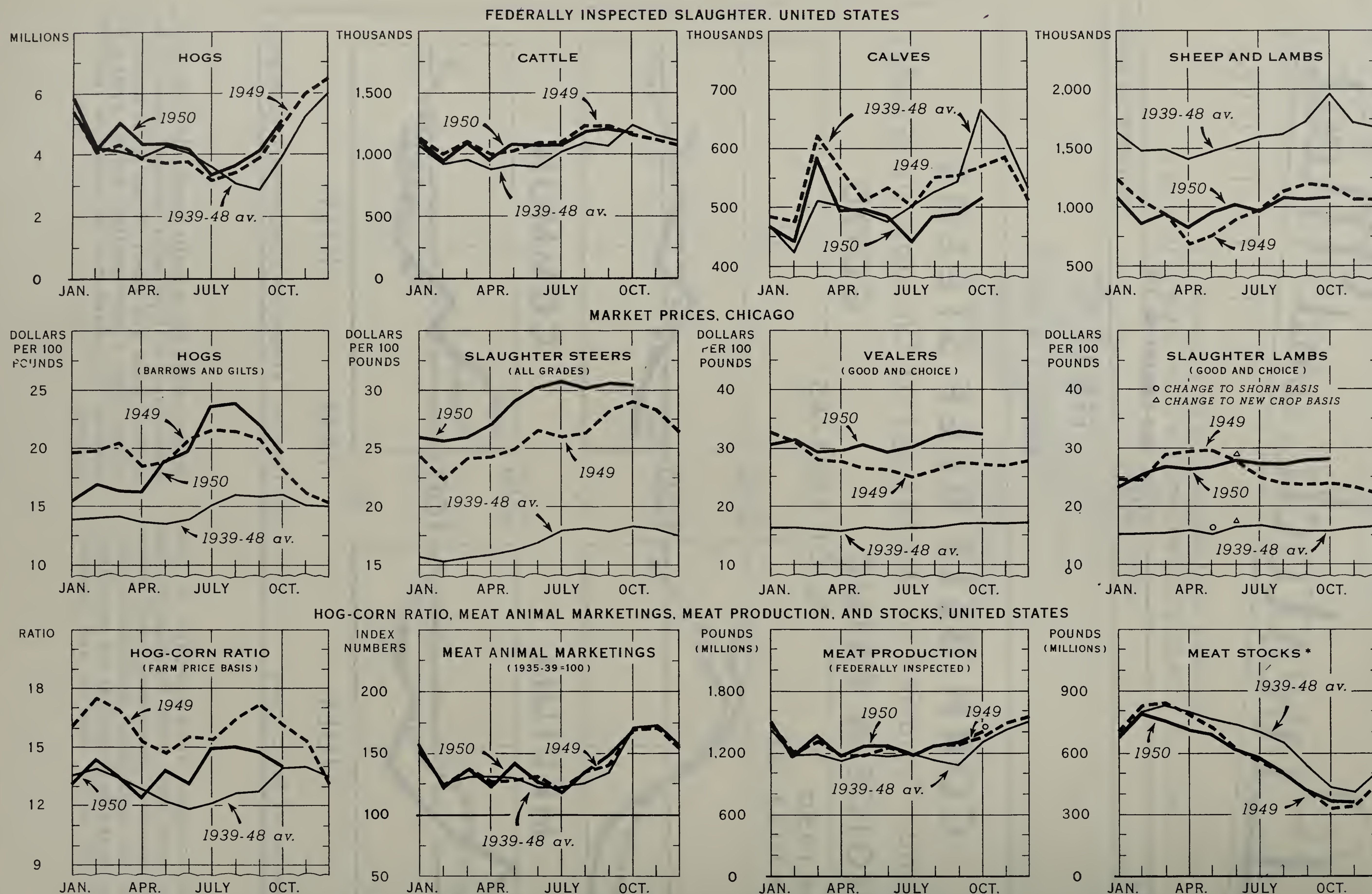
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-45 BAE NOVEMBER 1950



Seasonal changes in marketings of beef steers this year were more pronounced than usual. Choice and Prime steers were scarce last winter, but marketings increased rapidly about mid-year and have held at the peak later than usual this fall. Medium and Common steers traced an opposite trend. In early 1951, marketings will probably include more of the better grades and fewer of the lower grades of steers than a year earlier, but by spring the numbers by grades may be closer to the 1950 pattern.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
° ESTIMATED

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, November 22, 1950

SUMMARY

Meat production this fall has been running a little larger than last fall. Compared with this period a year earlier, output of beef has been slightly larger, pork production is up a little more than beef but veal and lamb production are down. Prices farmers received for hogs have declined about the same percentage as usual for the season. Beef cattle prices have been generally steady while prices of lambs and mature sheep have increased.

Hog slaughter is expected to reach its peak before the middle of December, and to decline seasonally thereafter. Slaughter has been somewhat larger this fall than last, and will probably not differ greatly this winter from last winter. Although hog prices have shown about the usual percentage seasonal decline this fall they have been higher than a year earlier. Rising prices are expected around the turn of the year.

Cattle slaughter from August through October was nearly stable and a little smaller than last year. It may not drop as much during late fall as last, and for 1950 may total about as large as a year earlier. Recently, supplies of cattle for slaughter have included more fed cattle but fewer grass cattle than usual for the season. Fed cattle have been marketed later this fall than in most years, and much later than in 1949. The large numbers of well-finished fed cattle have raised average slaughter weights by about 18 pounds above a year earlier. Consequently, beef production has been slightly larger this fall than last despite the fewer cattle slaughtered. In the next few months beef production will probably continue somewhat larger than a year previously.

Fewer cattle have been shipped into the feeding area this fall than last, but the number is as high as, or higher than in most previous years. Total numbers on feed, however, will be at a high level. The number expected to move to feed lots throughout the late fall and winter will be substantial though below last year. Record numbers will probably be fed in California, and numbers on feed will be as large or larger than last year in most of the other Western States.

Prices of the better grades of cattle have been exceptionally stable this past summer and fall, but in November were lower than a year earlier. Prices of the lower grades have declined less than usual and have been higher than last year. Very strong demand for feeder cattle which raised prices to record levels, has tended to support prices of lower grade slaughter cattle. Prices of the better grades of cattle are likely to increase moderately this winter, as the supply declines and as consumer demand for meat increases.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs since mid-year has been smaller than a year earlier. It was relatively stable in August-October, and may be close to 1949 levels in weeks ahead. Although fewer lambs will be fed

this year than last, movement to the Corn Belt was earlier than last fall and slaughter will likely be earlier.

Prices of lambs have advanced recently and for the week ending November 11 were $6.00 higher than last year. Some further increase may occur. Prices of mature sheep have nearly doubled since mid-year. Good and Choice slaughter ewes at Chicago, which averaged $8.55 per 100 pounds the week ended July 1, reached $15.50 the week ended November 18. Strong demand for breeding stock is a factor in this price rise.

Slaughter of calves has been smaller than last year and for the next few months is expected to continue below a year earlier. Prices, now near a record high, may be well maintained.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Meat Production This Fall Slightly Above Last Year

Total meat production this fall has been a little larger than last fall. Pork and beef production has been larger this fall than last, but production of veal and lamb and mutton are down considerably from last year. The 14,573 million pounds of meat produced commercially from January through September were 2.2 percent more than production in the same nine months of 1949. Almost all the increase was in pork, production of which was up 6.5 percent from 1949. Output of lamb and mutton for the past 9 months, while below 1949 levels since mid-year, totaled 3.1 percent above the same months last year.

The seasonal peak in slaughter of cattle and of sheep and lambs was less than usual this fall. Monthly slaughter of each species was almost constant from August through October. Cattle slaughter was a little below the same months of 1949. However, during November the weekly cattle slaughter under Federal inspection held up better than in November 1949. Nevertheless, there may also be less seasonal decline during the remaining weeks of 1950 and cattle slaughter may be moderately larger than in the same period a year earlier.

Hog slaughter increased in November and moved toward a seasonal peak expected about early December. Weekly slaughter was about stable in October and the month's total under Federal inspection was up 3 percent from last October, but slaughter in November has shown a bigger gain over last year. Hog slaughter in the entire fall and winter season will total larger than a year earlier because the 1950 spring pig crop was larger than the 1949 spring crop.

Slaughter weights of cattle and hogs have been heavier this fall than last. In October and November, the average dressed weight of cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection was around 18 pounds heavier than a year earlier, and hogs were around 4 pounds heavier. These differences, though small, have provided most of the margin of increase in the meat supply this fall over last.

A Little More Meat Likely in First Quarter of 1951 Than in Same Quarter of 1950

Meat production will decrease seasonally in the first quarter of 1951, and comparisons with a year earlier are expected to show about the same relationships by kind of meat as in the current period--somewhat more pork, not much change in beef, and less veal, lamb and mutton. The increase in pork production over the first quarter of 1950 may be about 5 percent. Beef production in early 1951 will not differ greatly from a year earlier, and will include larger than usual quantities from slaughter of fed cattle. Lamb and mutton supplies in the first few months of 1951, which will come largely from this year's lamb crop now on feed and on wheat pastures, will be smaller than in the same months of 1950.

Fed Cattle in Liberal Supply; Fewer Grass Cattle

Outstanding features of cattle marketings this year have been the sharp seasonal trends in fed cattle, the lateness of peak supplies of top quality cattle, and the small supplies of grass cattle for slaughter this fall. An exceptionally high proportion of cattle slaughter this fall has been of fed cattle.

During most years the proportion of well-finished cattle in slaughter supplies is associated with the marketings of cattle out of feed lots. Marketings of Good and better grades of cattle are usually smallest in mid-winter and reach a high in the summer when cattle move out of feed lots to slaughter. Marketings of Medium and Common grades of fed cattle have opposite trends, being largest in the winter (see cover chart and table 1).

This year, the usual seasonal trends were exaggerated. Marketings of Good and Choice cattle were unusually small during the first few months, then increased rapidly during the summer and continued large during the fall. Their large supply this fall is in contrast with their sharply declining supply last fall. Receipts of Good and Choice slaughter steers at Chicago in each month from January through August were considerably below the same month of 1949, but in September were 12 percent above last September and in October were up 58 percent from October 1949.

Marketings of Medium and Common steers were large early in 1950, but dropped off faster than they ordinarily do. The preponderance of lower grades early in 1950 and of top grades late in the year has come about because many cattle went on feed in the fall of 1949 at light weight, and required a long feeding period to gain the desired finish. Also, feeders probably sent many of their cattle to market as high Mediums last winter instead of holding them to a higher grade because they feared the then current prices would not be maintained. A third reason for the 1950 pattern is the larger movements to feed lots in late winter and spring of 1950 than of 1949, which increased slaughter supplies late in the year.

Table 1.- Monthly variation in receipts of Corn Belt slaughter steers at Chicago, by grades, 1922-45 average and 1949-50

(Data for cover page chart)

Index numbers (12-month average = 100)

Month	Choice and Prime			Good			Medium			Common		
	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
January	56	36	13	87	98	63	131	104	194	139	131	174
February	39	38	3	72	83	68	121	131	154	122	81	179
March	42	92	6	83	108	86	134	86	196	130	103	152
April	53	73	15	96	109	106	138	96	118	109	92	98
May	76	140	64	116	125	134	136	117	81	101	103	123
June	125	174	137	123	116	92	93	62	42	64	87	78
July	165	157	174	115	114	100	70	52	58	71	112	54
August	173	170	194	121	160	116	71	87	77	76	104	66
September	143	141	175	111	94	111	60	75	54	81	84	62
October	142	105	193	103	87	140	58	95	63	89	103	70
November	106	63		89	67		79	130		94	87	
December	80	11		84	39		109	165		124	113	

1/ Yearly receipts partially estimated.

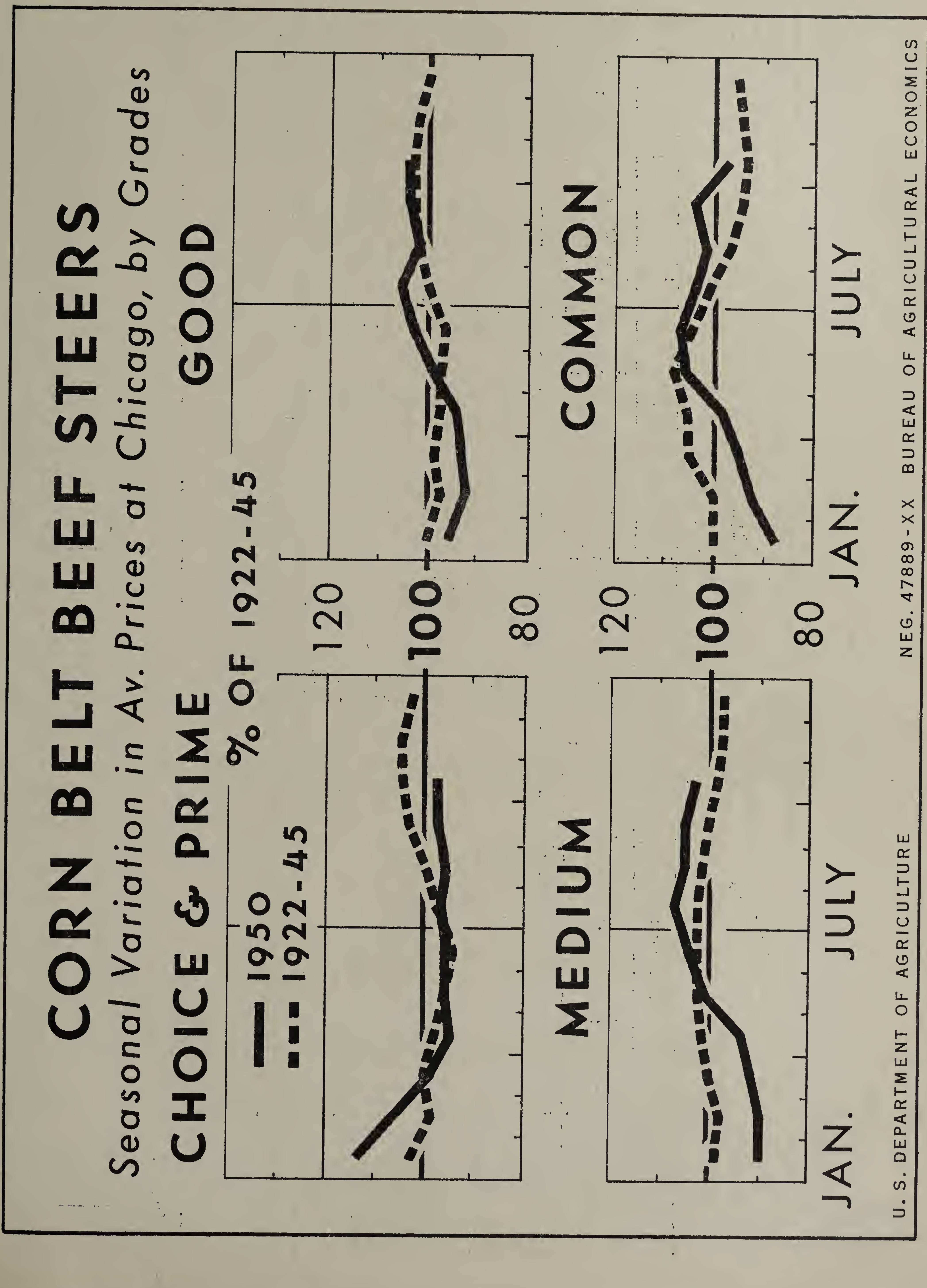

CORN BELT BEEF STEERS
Seasonal Variation in Av. Prices at Chicago, by Grades
CHOICE & PRIME
GOOD
% OF 1922-45
1950
1922-45
120
100
80
MEDIUM
COMMON
JAN.
JULY
JAN.
JULY
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Table 2.- Monthly variation in average prices of Corn Belt slaughter steers at Chicago, by grades, 1922-45 average and 1949-50

Index numbers (12-month average = 100)

Month	Choice and Prime			Good			Medium			Common		
	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/	Average 1922-45	1949	1950 1/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
January	102	99	113	100	94	96	99	97	90	100	104	88
February	99	87	106	98	87	93	98	88	90	100	93	93
March	100	87	99	99	92	94	100	97	92	105	108	96
April	98	87	95	98	92	95	101	99	94	105	108	99
May	96	88	96	98	94	100	102	102	101	108	112	106
June	94	93	96	97	100	103	102	106	104	104	108	107
July	98	91	97	100	98	105	102	101	107	101	98	104
August	100	95	96	102	100	102	101	100	105	97	92	102
September	103	106	98	103	107	104	100	99	105	95	90	104
October	104	116	98	103	112	104	99	100	103	94	94	98
November	104	123		102	111		98	105		95	96	
December	102	128			113		98	106		96	97	

1/ Yearly average price partially estimated.

In contrast with, and offsetting, the large receipts of fed cattle this fall has been the small run of grass cattle. Receipts of cattle classed as "grass" at 7 markets during the six weeks ending November 11 were only 60 percent of those in the same period last year. However, grass cattle were marketed unusually early in the fall of 1949 before the usual peak in October, but this year they are being held longer than last year in order to utilize the good pastures and feed crops in the range States. Weekly marketings of grass cattle may reach last year's level late this year or early in 1951, but the season's total will be short of last year due to the increased number retained for feeding or breeding.

Price Spread Between Cattle Grades Narrow

Unusually heavy receipts of well-fed cattle and relatively short supplies of other cattle this fall have modified the usual seasonal price movement by grades (see chart on page 7, and table 2). Seasonal increases in prices of Good, Choice and Prime steers have been less than usual and much less than last fall. Declines for prices of Medium and Common steers have been small. Since March the weekly average price of Choice and Prime beef steers at Chicago has fluctuated between ($31.00 and $33.00) per 100 pounds and in the three weeks ended November 18 averaged $32.51. This November price was about $4.00 below the price in November last year. Prices of Common steers declined only 50 cents per 100 pounds from May to November, and in the latter month was about $5.00 higher than a year earlier. The spread between prices for Choice and Common steers has widened only slowly and is rather narrow for the season. At $8.59 in November, it was much less than the $17.23 last November (see table 3).

Table 3.- Spread between prices of Choice and Common slaughter steers at Chicago, by months, 1949-50

Month	1950: Price per 100 pounds: Choice and Prime steers	1950: Common steers	1950: Spread, per 100 pounds	1949: Price per 100 pounds: Choice and Prime steers	1949: Common steers	1949: Spread, per 100 pounds
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Jan.	36.80	20.44	16.36	29.41	20.49	8.92
Feb.	34.70	21.55	13.15	25.61	18.39	7.22
Mar.	32.24	22.13	10.11	25.88	21.21	4.67
Apr.	30.94	22.99	7.95	25.81	21.22	4.59
May	31.34	24.44	6.90	26.12	22.07	4.05
June	31.34	24.68	6.66	27.51	21.26	6.25
July	31.63	24.16	7.47	27.02	19.27	7.75
Aug.	31.37	23.51	7.86	28.01	18.20	9.81
Sept.	32.00	24.08	7.92	31.33	17.83	13.50
Oct.	31.94	22.76	9.18	34.27	18.48	15.79
Nov.	1/32.51	1/23.92	1/ 8.59	36.25	19.02	17.23
Dec.				37.77	19.23	18.54

1/ Average, 3 weeks ended November 18.

The narrower price spread this fall is due in part to the very strong demand for feeders and stockers, which has supported prices of the lower grades. Prices of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City in three weeks of November averaged $28.11 per 100 pounds, $6.80 more than the November 1949 price and a record high.

Prices of Top Grade Cattle May Trend Higher

Prices of the top grades of fed cattle may trend somewhat higher in months ahead. The price spread between grades may thus widen, but it is not expected to be as wide as last winter.

Rising consumer incomes and a seasonal decline in supplies of the best finished cattle are factors in this outlook. Although likely to exceed those a year earlier, slaughter supplies of Good and better steers are expected to decrease materially in the next couple of months.

Cattle Feeding to Continue Large

Indications are that the volume of cattle feeding will continue large. A larger than usual part of it will be longer term feeding starting with calves and light weight steers.

The relatively heavy into-feedlot movement last winter and spring has provided most of the large slaughter supplies this fall. The smaller movement into feeding areas this fall than last, and the continued emphasis on long-term feeding, might restrict supplies for slaughter in the first quarter of 1951. Hence, slaughter of fed cattle may be slow to increase in the spring of 1951, at the end of its seasonal decline during the winter. This pattern would be similar to that in the first half of 1950. Because of it, total cattle slaughter in 1951 will probably not exceed corresponding periods of 1950 until the second half of the year.

Hog Price Decline This Fall Not Unusually Large

Hog prices have been declining seasonally since late in August as market receipts have increased. The average price of barrows and gilts at Chicago for the week ending November 11 was $18.53 per 100 pounds, $5.95 below this year's high of $24.48 the week ended August 26, but $2.14 above the same week of 1949. The rate of price decline so far has been about the same as that of the last two years. The low point in hog prices may occur in December and a seasonal increase may be expected around the first of the year.

The price decline starting in August was interrupted in mid-October. At that time hog marketings were relatively stable. Apparently, many producers timed marketings for September; and the price decline in that month brought the seasonal rise of marketings to a temporary halt in October.

Although marketings are expected to be larger this winter than a year earlier, prices of hogs are likely to remain above those of last year because of a stronger demand for meat.

Sheep and Lamb Prices Up; Slaughter on Decline

Prices of sheep and lambs have been quite favorable relative to prices of other meat animals. Prices of lambs showed little seasonal decline this summer and fall, and increased as slaughter fell off after mid-October. Wooled Good and Choice slaughter lambs at Chicago averaged $29.48 per 100 pounds the week ended November 11; $6.01 more than in the same week of 1949 and higher than any previous November price on record.

Prices of mature sheep have been even stronger. Average prices of Good and Choice slaughter ewes at Chicago have increased each week beginning July 1,

moving from $8.55 per 100 pounds in that week to $15.50 the week ending November 18. This was a new high for the 30 years for which comparable figures are available. The average farm price of sheep in October was the highest in 40 years of record.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs has been below a year ago since mid-July. Current receipts for slaughter are mostly lambs and yearlings. In October only 11 percent were mature sheep--a low percentage for the season. This small sheep slaughter, together with the substantial proportion of this year's lambs that are being retained for breeding stock or going on feed, has accounted for the relatively low combined sheep and lamb slaughter.

Lambs moved to feed lots from the range areas earlier than usual this year. Shipments of sheep and lambs into 8 Corn Belt States during July through September were 7 percent above the same three months a year ago. This will be partially offset by smaller shipments during the remainder of the year, and the total number to be fed there will be below last year. Many of these lambs will be ready to come to market before January 1 and will probably do so if the discount on heavy lambs is as large as last fall. Such marketings along with other expected receipts of sheep and lambs will probably bring the number of sheep slaughtered the last weeks of this year to near the level of a year ago.

Slaughter after the first of the year will decline seasonally to a low point about April and will be comprised largely of lambs from feed lots or wheat pastures. The rate of slaughter may be moderately below that of corresponding periods of the first quarter of 1950.

Feed Supplies Improved During October

Because of unusually favorable weather in the Corn Belt, the feed situation improved during October. The principal gain has been in pastures and in the quality of crops harvested rather than in increased yields of grain. While the November estimate of total feed grain production was practically the same as in October, yields of late-maturing portions of some crops were increased by the favorable conditions. Sunny and dry weather greatly reduced the quantity of soft corn, and enabled growers to harvest soybeans, sorghum grains, sugar beets,and other crops rapidly and with a minimum of loss. The net effect of these conditions on livestock production and marketing is to allow feeders to extend their operations over a longer period, and to reduce the danger of gluts of marketings.

Good to excellent pasture feed conditions throughout most of the Great Plain States have encouraged farmers there to hold cattle later than usual. Hence,it is quite likely that marketings from that area may be distributed over much of the winter season.

Demand for Meat Continues Strong

The demand for meat and meat animals continued to increase during the last few months due to expanding consumer incomes as a result of defense activities. The sudden impact of inflationary pressures this summer resulted in larger increases in demand for meat than normally would be expected from the rise in consumer incomes. The retail value of meat consumed in the third quarter of 1950 was about 8 percent greater than in the same quarter of 1949. The increase in disposable personal income per person was a little less--about 7 percent. Preliminary indications are that this stronger demand relationship was maintained during October and early November, and was a factor in maintaining prices of meat animals despite the seasonally larger slaughter.

In view of the probably 5 to 10 percent increase in consumer purchasing power during the year ahead, a gradual increase in the demand for meat seems likely. It probably will result in somewhat higher prices than in 1950 despite the moderately larger meat production expected.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Oct. 1949	Jan.-Oct. 1950	1949 Oct.	1950 Sept.	1950 Oct.
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	28.10	32.43	34.27	32.00	31.94
Good	do.	25.79	29.08	29.63	30.32	30.42
Medium	do.	22.94	26.53	23.24	28.07	27.56
Common	do.	19.84	23.07	18.48	24.08	22.76
All grades	do.	25.55	28.54	28.93	30.57	30.49
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.24	27.28	26.24	29.67	29.44
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.47	27.47	29.04	29.83	29.56
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	19.06	21.64	17.65	23.29	22.10
Common	do.	2/15.69	18.70	2/14.34	20.26	19.58
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/14.65	16.16	3/13.39	17.42	16.74
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.71	30.80	27.02	32.95	32.52
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	21.90	26.10	20.57	26.90	26.92
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	20.11	22.71	19.20	24.70	24.30
Veal calves	do.	23.18	25.81	21.70	28.00	27.50
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.18	18.96	17.36	20.26	19.07
180-200 pounds	do.	20.61	19.57	17.93	21.45	19.51
200-220 pounds	do.	20.70	19.74	18.15	21.98	19.72
220-240 pounds	do.	20.55	19.67	18.31	22.30	19.84
240-270 pounds	do.	20.17	19.38	18.34	22.32	19.87
270-300 pounds	do.	19.56	18.92	18.27	22.09	19.82
All weights	do.	20.00	19.26	18.10	21.81	19.64
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.87	19.24	18.08	21.84	19.47
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.73	16.67	16.84	20.12	18.41
Price received by farmers	do.	18.93	18.31	17.60	21.10	19.20
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	15.1	13.3	15.7	14.2	12.9
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	16.0	13.9	16.1	14.7	14.0
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	10.77	12.06	9.69	13.01	14.34
Price received by farmers	do.	9.53	10.90	8.88	11.70	12.80
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.03	26.68	23.75	27.72	27.98
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	6/23.05	7/26.70	23.28	28.50	28.90
Price received by farmers	do.	23.00	24.22	21.50	25.60	25.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		317	337	301	372	358
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	41.96	46.14	47.82	48.39	48.13
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	50.49	8/51.64	46.12	52.56	50.05
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.72	20.54	19.27	23.20	20.20
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.82	28.20	26.46	31.85	27.73
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.36	23.80	23.77	27.04	24.18
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.56	33.37	33.33	37.91	33.90
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Good grade	per pound	66.3	---	69.6	77.2	---
Lamb	do.	68.3	---	63.8	71.0	---
Pork, including lard	do.	41.9	---	41.6	46.6	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		224	---	220	260	---
Retail (1935-39=100)		231	---	233	258	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Average of prices for August, September and October.
7/ Average of prices for January, February, March, August, September and October.
8/ Prices of 45-50 pound lambs used for March, April and May. No price for February.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Oct. 1949	Jan.-Oct. 1950	1949 Oct.	1950 Sept.	1950 Oct.	1950 Nov.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		135	138	167	148	168	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	2,628	2,405	869	447	763	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,234	2,424	572	576	591	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	11,041	10,842	1,156	1,196	1,169	
Calves	do.	5,354	4,899	568	488	515	
Sheep and lambs	do.	10,018	9,852	1,172	1,063	1,081	
Hogs	do.	40,551	44,043	4,959	4,137	5,102	
Percentage sows	Percent	16	---	11	16	---	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	977	2/ 984	958	983	2/968	
Calves	do.	206	2/ 208	244	241	2/247	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	2/ 96	93	93	2/ 93	
Hogs	do.	250	2/ 247	228	233	2/232	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	535	2/ 540	509	538	2/521	
Veal, per head	do.	115	2/ 116	133	133	2/134	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	2/ 46	44	44	2/ 43	
Pork, per head 3/	do.	141	2/ 139	128	133	2/133	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 3/	do.	56	2/ 56	56	57	2/ 57	
Lard, per head	do.	37	2/ 36	32	32	2/ 31	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	2/ 14	14	14	2/ 13	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	5,876	2/5,824	585	640	2/609	
Veal	do.	611	2/ 563	75	65	2/ 67	
Lamb and mutton	do.	439	2/ 449	51	47	2/ 47	
Pork 3/	do.	5,670	2/6,044	634	547	2/667	
Lard	do.	1,492	2/1,560	159	131	2/155	
Total commercial slaughter 4/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	15,049	---	1,582	1,618	---	
Calves	do.	9,027	---	947	833	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	11,059	---	1,287	1,164	---	
Hogs	do.	49,072	---	5,871	4,993	---	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	7,674	---	772	832	---	
Veal	do.	1,024	---	120	107	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	482	---	56	51	---	
Pork 2/	do.	6,781	---	752	658	---	
Lard	do.	1,686	---	179	152	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	63	73	81	95
Veal	do.	---	---	8	7	8	9
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	6	6	8
Pork	do.	---	---	205	304	241	221
Total meat and meat products 5/	do.	---	---	362	466	410	405

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Estimated from weekly data.
3/ Excludes lard.
4/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
5/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

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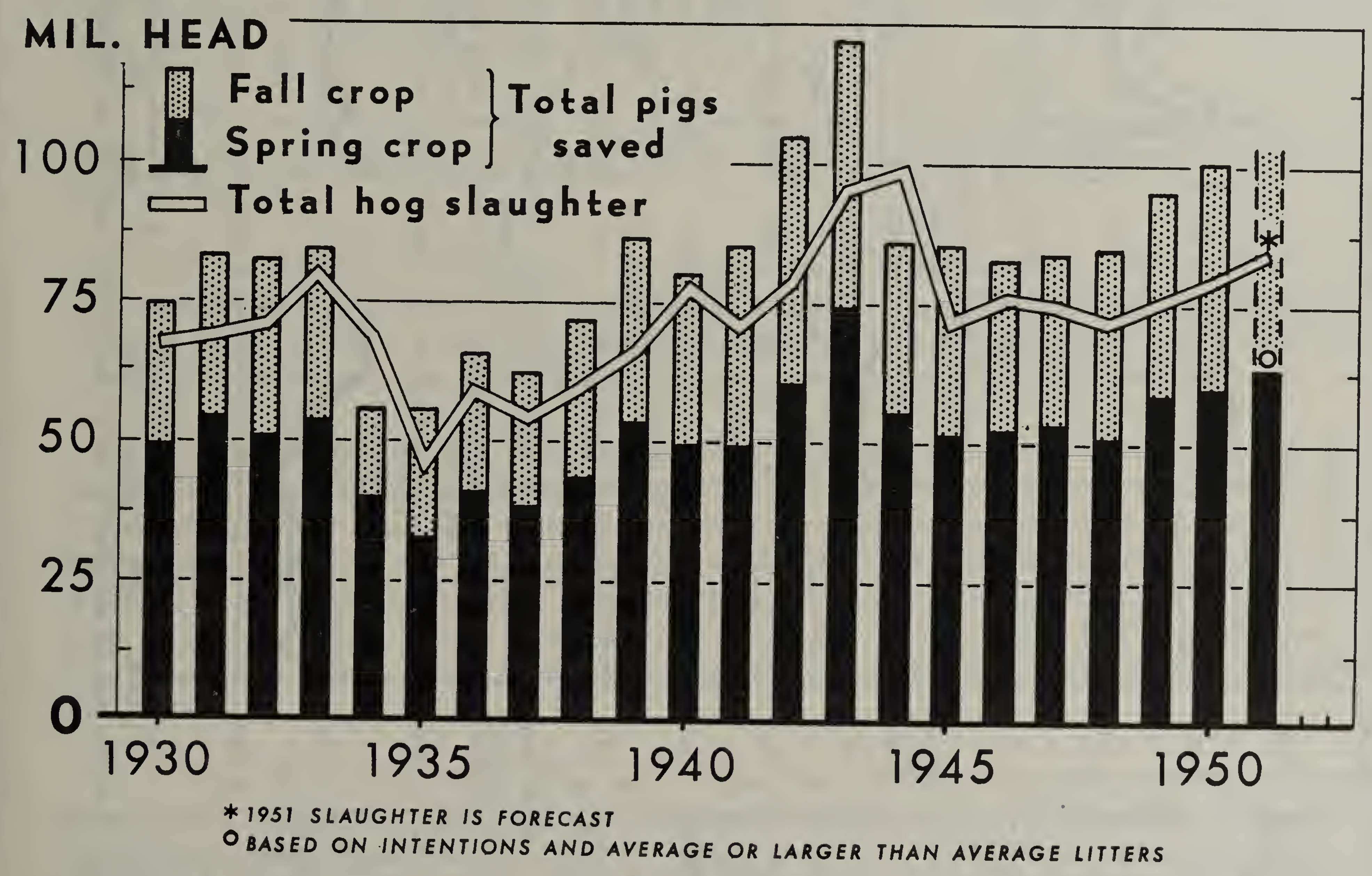
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-46 BAE DECEMBER 1950

In this issue:

Changes in the relative importance of spring and fall pig crops.

PIG CROPS and HOG SLAUGHTER

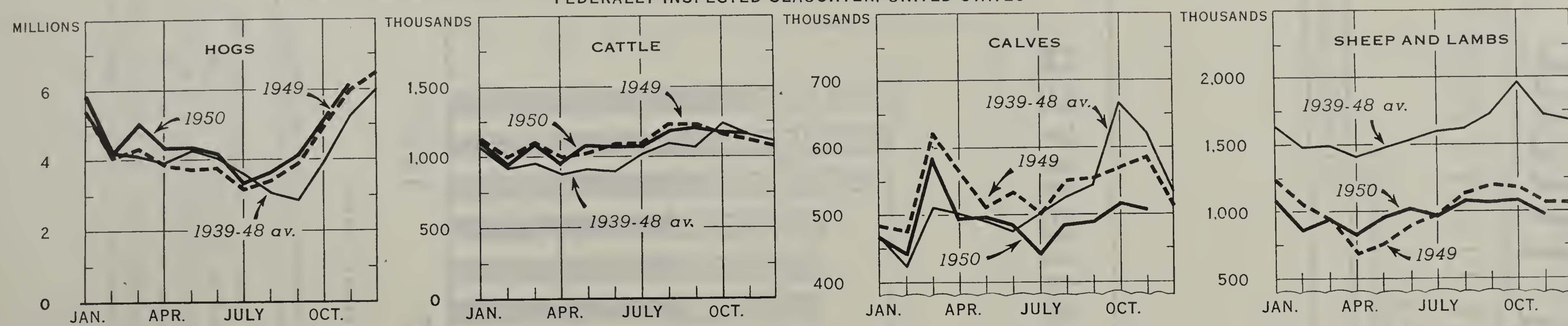


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47459-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

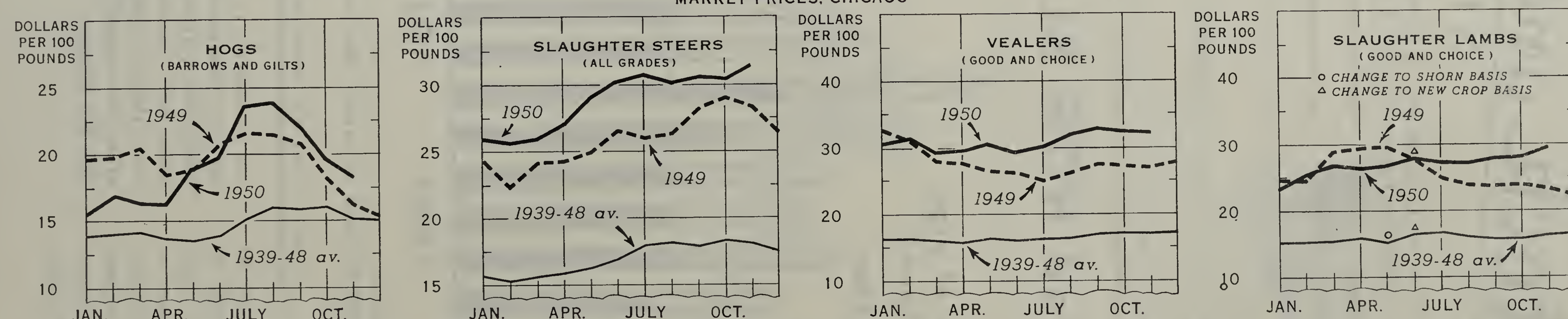
Larger annual pig crops resulted in an increase in hog slaughter in 1949 and again in 1950; and the continued uptrend in pig crops will bring another increase in hog slaughter in 1951. The 1950 fall pig crop was 9 percent larger than the 1949 fall crop, and a 6 percent increase in the 1951 spring crop over the same 1950 crop is indicated by farmers' intentions on December 1. Around 4 million more hogs may be slaughtered in 1951 than in 1950. If slaughter weights are no lighter than last year, total pork production will be sufficient to fill the military requirements now in prospect and allow for a small increase in civilian consumption per person.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

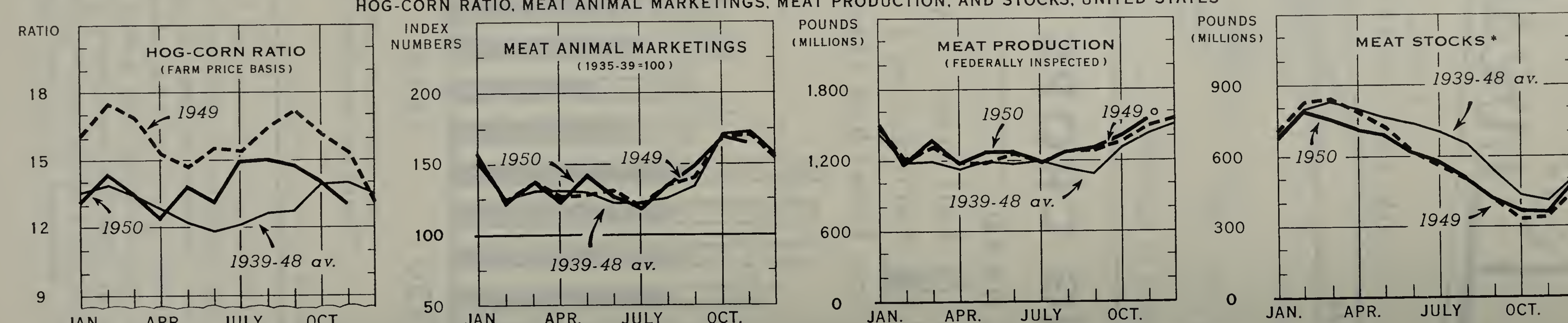
FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER, UNITED STATES



MARKET PRICES, CHICAGO



HOG-CORN RATIO, MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS, MEAT PRODUCTION, AND STOCKS, UNITED STATES



* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
o ESTIMATED

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, December 27, 1950

SUMMARY

Seasonally rising prices for most classes of meat animals and most meats are in prospect for this winter. A decrease in slaughter supplies of livestock as the peak marketing season passes, together with maintained or increasing demand due to defense activities, underlie this outlook.

Meat production was very large in late 1950 as the number and weight of cattle slaughter were high for that period while hog slaughter reached its peak in December. Output of meat under Federal inspection for December may have been a postwar high. Notwithstanding the large slaughter, prices of meat animals and meats generally strengthened. Prices of steers and lambs increased and prices of hogs advanced from their seasonal low reached in late November. Over-all average retail prices of meat near the year's end were up about 8 percent from a year earlier. They about equaled the records for the season set two years earlier, but were below the all-time peaks of the summer of 1948.

The recent increases in prices of slaughter steers and lambs carried them above the minimum ceiling levels specified in the Defense Production Act of 1950.

The seasonal reduction in meat production in the next month or two will be moderate, and total production in January-March may be slightly larger than a year earlier. Meat consumption per civilian consumer for January-March may be almost as large as in the same 1950 period.

Slaughter of fed cattle appears likely to hold up well early in 1951 because a substantial number of cattle about ready for market were carried over on January 1. Hog slaughter will decrease seasonally in January and February. Totals for those months are likely to show only a little gain over the same 1950 months, because the late-spring farrowings which are the source of slaughter then were only a little larger last year than in the previous year. Hog slaughter will increase again beginning sometime in March.

The 1950 fall pig crop was reported at 40.7 million head, 9 percent more than the 1949 fall crop. Farmers' intentions on December 1 were for 4 percent more sows to farrow in the spring of 1951 than last spring. If litters are of an average size with an allowance for trend, this number of sows would produce about 63.5 million pigs, 6 percent more than the 60.0 million saved from the 1950 spring crop.

The volume of cattle feeding this winter is expected to be nearly as large as last winter. However, because placements on feed during the early fall were less than a year earlier and because an even larger percentage of all cattle on feed this winter than last are young stock, the prospects are

for slaughter supplies of fed cattle to decrease in late winter and to be little if any larger this spring than last spring. The increase in total 1951 cattle slaughter over 1950 will be confined almost entirely to the second half of the year.

Fewer lambs will be fed this winter than last. The reduction is due to the smaller lamb crop and increased numbers held back for breeding.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

6 Percent More Spring Pigs

Nearly 10 million sows will farrow from December 1950 through May 1951 if hog producers carry out their December 1 intentions. If litters are of an average size with an allowance for trend, this number of sows will produce about 63.5 million pigs, 6 percent more than the 60 million saved in the spring of 1950. The increase in spring pigs would be the third in succession, and the new crop would be the largest on record for peacetime years and second largest for all years. If this prospective spring pig crop should be realized and the 1951 fall crop should be no smaller than the 1950 fall crop, a total of 104 million pigs would be saved during 1951, the third largest annual crop on record.

The biggest increase in number of sows to farrow this spring, both in actual numbers and percentagewise, is reported for the West North Central States. The increase in the East North Central States is substantial but somewhat smaller. The North Central region as a whole -- the Corn Belt -- has contributed by far the largest part of the expansion in hog production the last few years. The number of sows expected to farrow in the North Central States is considerably above any recent year except 1943.

Regions outside the Corn Belt also indicate more sows to farrow this spring, but only in the South Atlantic (Southeast) region is the percent increase as large as the United States average. In the Northeast and West, where 1950 sow numbers were considerably below those in 1949 and the 1939-48 average, only slight increases are in prospect for the spring of 1951. (See table 1.)

1950 Fall Crop 40,675,000 Head

The 1950 fall pig crop totaled 40.7 million head, an increase of 9 percent from last fall and the fourth increase in a row over the preceding fall. The average number of pigs saved per litter was up to a record 6.65 from the 6.51 average in the fall of 1949.

The trend shown in 1949 toward later farrowings of fall pigs was continued in 1950. There has been a greater concentration of farrowings in the major farrowing months, principally August and September, at the expense of those in June and July. (See table 2.)

Table 1.- Sows farrowed, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States, by regions, average 1937-41, by years 1946 to date

Year	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
Spring Pig Crop							
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Sows farrowed							
1937-41 av.	140	2,016	3,417	580	1,069	312	7,534
1946	144	2,169	3,876	639	1,027	254	8,109
1947	157	2,313	4,266	670	1,003	243	8,652
1948	148	2,113	3,761	653	1,019	270	7,964
1949	161	2,412	4,395	688	1,125	273	9,054
1950 1/	140	2,613	4,654	717	1,135	245	9,504
1951 2/	141	2,693	4,928	751	1,158	249	9,920
Pigs saved							
1937-41 av.	886	12,961	21,472	3,377	6,157	1,948	46,801
1946	984	14,559	25,324	3,779	6,130	1,616	52,392
1947	1,019	14,278	26,031	3,956	5,992	1,526	52,802
1948	985	14,066	24,348	3,969	6,212	1,686	51,266
1949	1,092	16,034	28,340	4,215	6,996	1,749	58,426
1950 1/	904	16,553	29,465	4,478	7,058	1,539	59,997
1951 2/							63,500
Pigs saved per litter							
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.32	6.45	6.30	5.82	5.76	6.24	6.22
1946	6.79	6.71	6.53	5.91	5.97	6.35	6.46
1947	6.49	6.17	6.10	5.90	5.97	6.27	6.10
1948	6.63	6.66	6.47	6.08	6.10	6.24	6.44
1949	6.80	6.65	6.45	6.13	6.22	6.39	6.45
1950 1/	6.46	6.33	6.33	6.25	6.22	6.27	6.31
Fall Pig Crop							
Sows farrowed							
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1937-41 av.	127	1,471	1,480	507	963	254	4,802
1946	120	1,515	1,446	589	883	160	4,713
1947	119	1,566	1,534	598	908	182	4,907
1948	125	1,631	1,704	575	923	200	5,158
1949	122	1,836	1,968	605	981	201	5,713
1950 1/	117	2,015	2,232	609	967	177	6,117
Pigs saved							
1937-41 av.	844	9,756	9,400	3,051	5,769	1,608	30,428
1946	808	10,194	9,574	3,597	5,382	993	30,548
1947	822	10,258	9,760	3,668	5,668	1,169	31,345
1948	864	11,066	11,280	3,591	5,834	1,286	33,921
1949	827	12,163	12,871	3,759	6,242	1,313	37,175
1950 1/	806	13,597	15,008	3,836	6,268	1,142	40,657
Pigs saved per litter							
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.63	6.63	6.34	6.02	5.99	6.31	6.33
1946	6.76	6.73	6.62	6.11	6.10	6.23	6.48
1947	6.88	6.55	6.36	6.13	6.24	6.45	6.39
1948	6.90	6.78	6.62	6.25	6.32	6.42	6.58
1949	6.80	6.62	6.54	6.22	6.36	6.55	6.51
1950 1/	6.89	6.75	6.72	6.30	6.48	6.48	6.65

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of December 1, 1950.
Average (1939-48) number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, spring and fall season, United States, average 1937-41 and by years 1946 to date

Year	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	Total
	Number, spring season						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	290	409	791	1,999	2,605	1,440	7,534
1946	296	358	703	2,136	2,962	1,654	8,109
1947	301	393	914	2,475	3,063	1,506	8,652
1948	263	367	762	2,150	2,874	1,548	7,964
1949	303	467	988	2,623	3,090	1,583	9,054
1950	275	447	1,140	2,899	3,165	1,578	9,504
1951 2/							9,920
	Percentage, spring season						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	3.9	5.4	10.5	26.5	34.6	19.1	100.0
1946	3.7	4.4	8.7	26.3	36.5	20.4	100.0
1947	3.5	4.5	10.6	28.6	35.4	17.4	100.0
1948	3.3	4.6	9.6	27.0	36.1	19.4	100.0
1949	3.3	5.2	10.9	29.0	34.1	17.5	100.0
1950	2.9	4.7	12.0	30.5	33.3	16.6	100.0

Year	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
	Number, fall season						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	546	510	879	1,483	939	445	4,802
1946	669	524	872	1,451	820	377	4,713
1947	644	559	1,010	1,512	840	342	4,907
1948	742	582	1,002	1,549	885	398	5,158
1949	751	638	1,205	1,796	923	400	5,713
1950	739	633	1,323	1,944	1,035	443	6,117
	Percentage, fall season						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	11.4	10.6	18.3	30.9	19.5	9.3	100.0
1946	14.2	11.1	18.5	30.8	17.4	8.0	100.0
1947	13.1	11.4	20.6	30.8	17.1	7.0	100.0
1948	14.4	11.3	19.4	30.0	17.2	7.7	100.0
1949	13.1	11.2	21.1	31.4	16.2	7.0	100.0
1950	12.1	10.3	21.6	31.8	16.9	7.3	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.
2/ Spring farrowings indicated from breeding intentions report.

Hog Slaughter Passes Season's High

During the fourth quarter of 1950 hog slaughter and pork production was at a new peacetime high. The number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection in October was the largest on record for that month. November slaughter was greater than for any previous November except 1943. Weekly Federally inspected hog slaughter hit its 1950 peak the week ended December 9. The estimated 1,761 thousand head slaughtered that week was a weekly high for the four years for which such records are available. Slaughter declined late in December and the total for the month was probably somewhat above the December 1949 slaughter. Total slaughter under Federal inspection for the four months September through December, which is made up chiefly of hogs from the spring pig crop, was about 4 percent larger than a year earlier.

First Quarter 1951 Hog Slaughter To Show Small Gain Over 1950

The number of hogs slaughtered in the first three months of 1951 is expected to be larger than a year earlier, but by a smaller average percentage than in the fall-winter season to date. The chief reason for this prospect is the very small increase in farrowings late last spring over the previous spring, which will restrict the slaughter supplies in the latter part of this marketing season. On the other hand, the increase in slaughter throughout the current season has been more evenly distributed by months than would have been expected from the distribution of farrowings last spring. A small increase in first quarter 1951 slaughter over a year earlier would be in line with this pattern to date.

Hog Prices Up From Seasonal Low; Further Rise Likely

Hog prices reached their seasonal peak this year late in August. Except for two weeks in October, they declined week by week during September, October and November. The monthly average price of barrows and gilts at 7 markets was \$23.89 per 100 pounds in August and \$18.05 in November, a reduction of 24 percent. In 1949 the corresponding prices were \$21.32 in August and \$15.21 in December, the low month, for a reduction of 29 percent. The lowest weekly price this fall at 7 markets was the \$17.70 average the week ended November 25. Prices showed no strong movement during early December, but increased sharply about the middle of the month. A further seasonal rise in prices is expected in the first two months of 1951 as marketings are seasonally reduced.

Price Differentials Favor Heavier Hogs Than Last Year

Price discounts for very light weight hogs have been generally wider this past year than in 1948 and 1949, and those for heavy weights have been smaller. At Chicago the discount for 160-180 pound barrows and gilts compared with the 200-220 pound class averaged \$0.73 per 100 pounds in January-November, compared with average yearly discounts of \$0.44 in 1949 and \$0.47 in 1948. The discount for 240-270 pound hogs compared with medium weights this past year has been only two-thirds as large as last year and one-third that of two years ago. In early December the discount for heavy hogs at Chicago was about \$0.30 per 100 pounds. A year before it had been about \$0.60.

These smaller discounts for heavy hogs do not necessarily mean that returns to the farmer were greatest for feeding to heavier weights, but they do suggest that the risks incurred in holding hogs for the longer feeding periods were less than in previous years. With a strong demand for pork seemingly assured and demand for lard also likely to hold up well in 1951, it is probable that heavy hogs will continue to bring comparatively high prices. There will be seasonal changes, however, due to changing supplies of hogs of the various weights. During the next month or two, for example, average weights will increase and finished hogs over 240 pounds are expected to receive an increasing price discount; then later the margin will become narrower as hogs from the 1950 fall pig crop are marketed.

These prospects for relative prices by weight classes, taken with the probable strong demand for hogs in 1951, point to slightly heavier average market weights than in 1950. In September and October of the current fall-winter season, weights of barrows and gilts at 7 markets averaged a little above a year previously. November and December weights were about equal to a year earlier.

Hog-Corn Ratio About Average

The hog-corn ratio based on average farm prices was lower in 1950 than in 1949, when it was very favorable for hog production. The United States ratio on November 15 was 13.0 compared with 15.3 in November 1949 and 18.0 in November 1948 (table 3). The November 1950 ratio was about equal to the long-time average for the month.

Table 3.- United States average hog-corn price ratio calculated from average price received by farmers for corn, and from loan price for corn, by months 1949 to date

Year and Month	Price received by farmers for hogs, per 100 pounds	Corn price per bushel: Price received by farmers (average for all grades of corn sold)	Corn price per bushel: Loan price (Basis corn grading #3)	Hog-corn ratio: Based on price received by farmers	Hog-corn ratio: Based on loan price
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
1949					
January	19.60	1.25	1.44	15.7	13.6
February	19.30	1.12	1.44	17.2	13.4
March	20.00	1.18	1.44	16.9	13.9
April	18.30	1.22	1.44	15.0	12.7
May	17.90	1.22	1.44	14.7	12.4
June	18.80	1.21	1.44	15.5	13.1
July	18.60	1.25		14.9	
August	19.40	1.18		16.4	
September	19.80	1.16		17.1	
October	17.60	1.09	1.40	16.1	12.6
November	15.60	1.02	1.40	15.3	11.1
December	14.80	1.13	1.40	13.1	10.6
1950					
January	15.10	1.15	1.40	13.1	10.8
February	16.60	1.16	1.40	14.3	11.9
March	16.10	1.19	1.40	13.5	11.5
April	15.60	1.26	1.40	12.4	11.1
May	18.50	1.34	1.40	13.8	13.2
June	17.80	1.36	1.40	13.1	12.7
July	21.50	1.44	1.40	14.9	15.4
August	21.60	1.44	1.40	15.0	15.4
September	21.10	1.44	1.40	14.7	15.1
October	19.20	1.37	1.47	14.0	13.1
November	17.80	1.37	1.47	13.0	12.1

The hog-corn ratio was lower this fall than last because the price of corn was up more than the price of hogs. The United States average price of corn on November 15 was $1.37 per bushel. In November 1949 it was $1.02. The 1950 corn crop was 7 percent smaller than the 1949 crop, the quality probably averaged somewhat poorer, and demand for corn this winter is considerably stronger.

The hog-corn ratio will probably rise within the next few months as hog prices are expected to advance seasonally relatively more than corn prices. The ratio may be a little above average in much of 1951, and thus still on the favorable side for hog production, but less favorable than during the past two years.

1950 Cattle Slaughter Nearly Equals 1949; Beef Production Up Slightly

Cattle slaughter during 1950 about equaled that of 1949. The number slaughtered commercially the first 10 months of the year was 1.3 percent smaller than in the same period of 1949. In November and the first weeks of December, however, Federally inspected slaughter of cattle was above a year earlier, largely because of comparatively large marketings of cattle from feed lots. Cattle slaughter for all of 1950 probably totaled within 1 percent of 1949 slaughter.

The large number of well-finished cattle slaughtered in 1950 raised average slaughter weights above those the previous year. Consequently, the year's beef production was up slightly from 1949.

Early December a Peak in Meat Production; Seasonal Decline Due

Large marketings of fed cattle late in 1950 prevented the usual seasonal decline in total cattle slaughter. Slaughter of cattle under Federal inspection in November was almost as large as in October, and little change is likely to be reported for December. Slaughter in November was up 3 percent from November 1949, and the gain in December over last December was probably larger.

With a large cattle slaughter coming at the same time as the season's peak hog slaughter, total meat production for December was at the highest level for 1950. Production under Federal inspection for the month may have passed the previous postwar high reached in January 1947.

Cattle slaughter will probably continue large early in 1951. Substantial numbers of long-term fed cattle were probably carried into the new year, and are due to be marketed in the first month or two. Cattle slaughter is likely to decrease gradually as the supply of long-feds diminishes. Since hog slaughter will also be declining seasonally until sometime in March, total meat production will taper off during the early 1951 period. Total production for the January-March quarter may be only slightly larger than a year earlier -- perhaps up enough to provide almost the same consumption per person as in January-March 1950.

Cattle Feeding Nearly
Equal to Last Year

According to indications on December 1, nearly as many cattle will be fed this season as last. Fewer cattle probably will be fed in the Corn Belt this year but more in the western States. In California, feeding activity is expected to be at a record high level and, with the exception of Oregon, prospects elsewhere in the western States are for cattle feeding at the same or higher level than a year ago.

The movement of feeder cattle into the Corn Belt from July through October was below a year earlier but larger than in most other recent years. The movement this fall has followed the usual seasonal pattern more closely than the quite early movement in the fall of 1949. The number moved into the Corn Belt in November was 11 percent above that in November 1949, and the December total also was above a year earlier. Supplies of feeder cattle for the Corn Belt in the next month or two may continue to be large for the season.

Although there is still considerable short-term feeding, an unusually large number of the stocker and feeder cattle and calves going to the country have been light weight animals intended for long-term feeding. These will not be ready for slaughter until the latter part of 1951. Slaughter of fed cattle is likely to decline during the late winter and be no larger in the spring months of 1951 than in the corresponding months of 1950, but is expected to increase in the second half of the year and to reach a high level near the end of the year.

Stocker and Feeder Prices
Hit New High

Even though numbers shipped have not declined as much as last year and have recently been larger than a year ago, prices of feeder and stocker steers rose to a new high early in December. The average price of $29.62 per 100 pounds for all sales at Kansas City the week ended December 7 was $0.75 above the previous record set in July 1948. It was $7.56 above the price in the same week of December 1949.

Rising Prices For
Well-Finished Cattle

Prices of cattle for slaughter were relatively stable beginning about mid-1950, but have shown a tendency to advance in recent weeks. The average price of slaughter steers at Chicago moved up about $1.00 per 100 pounds from October to November and increased at nearly the same rate during early December. Prices of the top grades advanced most. Demand is likely to remain strong, not only for the best grades of slaughter cattle but for the lower grades as well. The continued interest in feeder cattle to refill feed lots and their high prices is a factor supporting the demand for the lower grades of slaughter cattle.

Fewer Sheep on Feed; Feeder Lamb Prices a Record

Fewer sheep and lambs are expected to be fed for market this winter than a year ago because fewer have been available for feeding. The 1950 lamb crop was smaller than the 1949 crop, and there has been strong demand for lambs for breeding stock. Most Corn Belt States will feed fewer lambs than last year, as will western States.

Shipments of sheep and lambs into the Corn Belt were early this year. Feeder lambs from most of the western supply areas were heavier in weight than last year, and a shorter feeding period has been in prospect. Many lambs have already moved to market from feed lots. On the other hand, many of the lambs placed on wheat pastures failed to make usual gains because of deterioration of those pastures, and will be marketed only after a period of feeding in feed lots. It is likely that marketings of lambs from feed lots will reach their seasonal peak earlier than usual.

Prices of feeder lambs have been record high. In fact, they have set new records in almost each successive week since May. The average price at Omaha in early December was $30.00 per 100 pounds, much above the $22.50 in December 1949.

Prices of Sheep and Lambs For Slaughter Also High

Prices of sheep and lambs continued strong during the first part of December in the face of increased market receipts. Wooled Good and Choice slaughter lambs at Chicago averaged $31.02 the week ending December 16, $9.87 above the same week the previous year, and the highest on record for that week. It was near the all-time record of $31.15 for wooled lambs and $31.75 for spring lambs set in the spring of 1949.

Prices of mature sheep have been even stronger. The average farm price of sheep in mid-November was $13.20 per 100 pounds, 40 cents above the October price, which was the previous high in 40 years of record. Shorn Good and Choice ewes at Chicago for the week ending December 16 averaged $16.12, $5.12 above a year ago.

Prices of lambs are expected to continue strong during the first half of 1951, although there may be some temporary declines if marketings of fed lambs are bunched. Prices of ewes may also strengthen further after the first of the year but may not show the usual full seasonal increase.

Strong Demand for Meat, Seasonally Reduced Supply, To Bring Higher Prices

Steady to rising prices for meat animals at the early-December peak in meat production are evidence of the strength of demand for meat. An increase in consumer incomes is the major cause.

Disposable incomes per person have increased fairly steadily since the middle of 1949. By the third quarter of 1950 they were 7 1/2 percent above a year earlier (table 4). Incomes are continuing upward.

Supplies of meat have increased less. Consumption per person was slightly larger in each of the first two quarters of 1950 than of 1949, but was slightly smaller in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, consumption per person may again have been a little above the preceding year.

Retail meat prices the last months of 1950 were about equal to record highs for the season but were less than the all-time peaks of the summer of 1948. The index of United States average retail prices of meat published by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics was 250 in October (1935-39=100), within 4 points of the October record established two years before. Price trends at New York and Baltimore in November and December indicate that over-all average meat prices for those months were about 8 percent higher than a year earlier and about equal to those two years earlier. Prices of each of the three meats in November-December were higher than in the same 1949 months, while prices of beef and lamb were higher, but pork lower, than in November-December 1948.

Expanding defense expenditures are expected to add further to consumer incomes in 1951. Since meat supplies per person early in the year will decline seasonally and will be no larger than a year earlier, the upward pressure on prices will be stronger than during this period last year.

The Defense Production Act of 1950 authorizes ceilings on commodity prices as well as other controls. The Act specifies minimum levels below which no price ceilings on agricultural products could be set. In general, prices of meat animals during much of the fall were not greatly different from the lowest possible ceilings, but recent increases in prices of slaughter steers and lambs brought those species into a range that could be subject to control.

The Economic Stabilization Agency has announced a voluntary price freeze as of December 1. No directive has been issued elaborating its application to meats.

Meat, Other Food Prices and Consumer Incomes Far Above Prewar

In the past several years average retail prices not only of meats but of most foods have been far above their prewar levels, having responded in varying degrees to the large increase that has taken place in consumer incomes. Disposable personal income has recently been about three times prewar (table 5).

Compared with prewar, the advance in prices of meat has been greater than that of all other foods considered together. Certain food groups, such as cereals and fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, have risen substantially less than meats. Certain others, notably the beverage group, have shown as much or more price increase since prewar than has meats.

Table 4.- Consumption and retail value of meat compared with disposable personal income seasonally adjusted, by quarter years, 1949 to date

Quarter-year	All meat: Civilian consumption per capita: Actual	Civilian consumption per capita: Seasonally adjusted	Average retail price per pound 1/: Actual 2/	Average retail price per pound 1/: Seasonally adjusted	Retail value of civilian consumption per capita, index no., seasonally adjusted 3/	Disposable personal income per capita, index no., seasonally adjusted 3/
	Pounds	Pounds	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	37.1	36.0	---	---	244	250
Apr.-June	34.9	37.2	---	---	255	246
July-Sept.	34.6	36.9	---	---	250	241
Oct.-Dec.	37.3	33.8	---	---	223	242
Year	143.9	143.9	---	---	243	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	37.4	36.1	---	---	238	255
Apr.-June	35.3	37.7	---	---	264	252
July-Sept.	34.2	36.6	---	---	270	259
			Beef			
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	16.0	15.8	64.0	65.2	257	250
Apr.-June	16.0	17.3	65.7	66.2	286	246
July-Sept.	16.4	16.3	68.2	66.4	270	241
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	14.1	69.3	69.4	243	242
Year	63.5	63.5	66.8	66.8	264	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	15.4	67.2	68.4	263	255
Apr.-June	15.7	17.0	71.9	72.4	306	252
July-Sept.	16.0	16.0	77.6	75.6	300	259
			Pork excluding lard			
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	17.9	16.6	47.0	48.4	236	250
Apr.-June	16.1	16.7	47.4	48.2	235	246
July-Sept.	14.8	17.4	49.4	47.6	242	241
Oct.-Dec.	18.8	16.9	43.9	43.6	215	242
Year	67.6	67.6	46.9	46.9	232	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	18.8	17.4	41.7	42.9	219	255
Apr.-June	16.8	17.5	44.8	45.5	234	252
July-Sept.	15.1	17.7	51.9	50.0	258	259

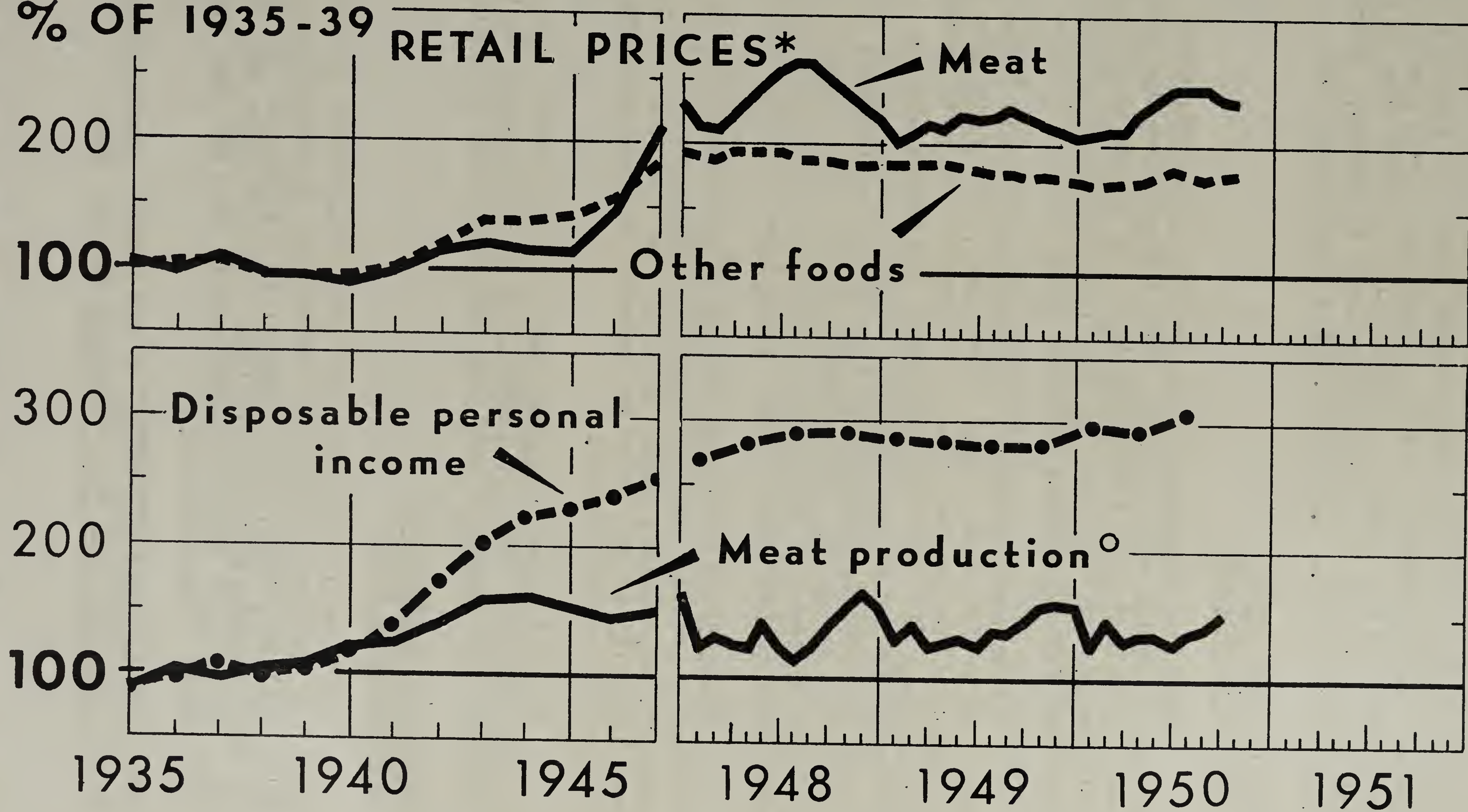
1/ Not calculated for all meats combined since the retail value for all meats is the sum of values for individual meats, rather than a product of quantity times price for all meats.
2/ Weighted retail prices for all important cuts.
3/ 1935-39=100.

Table 5.- Index numbers of retail prices of meat and other foods, disposable income and commercial meat production, 1935-47, by months 1948 to date 1/

Year	Meat prices 2/	Prices foods other than meat 2/	Disposable personal income 3/	Commercial meat production 4/
1935	104	101	87.6	87.8
1936	99	104	99.9	103.6
1937	108	106	107.4	97.0
1938	96	96	99.0	102.4
1939	93	93	106.1	109.2
1940	89	95	114.5	120.0
1941	101	102	139.1	124.7
1942	117	121	176.5	141.0
1943	121	139	200.2	157.4
1944	115	138	222.2	162.4
1945	113	142	228.4	151.3
1946	145	158	240.2	145.3
1947	210	182	256.2	150.0
1948				
Jan.	230	195		166.2
Feb.	213	193	271.8	126.4
Mar.	211	190		132.4
Apr.	221	194		126.0
May	233	194	283.6	122.9
June	246	194		143.0
July	255	194		121.3
Aug.	261	190	291.0	114.5
Sept.	259	189		125.9
Oct.	248	188		139.4
Nov.	237	186	292.5	155.1
Dec.	228	184		166.8
1949				
Jan.	219	186		156.1
Feb.	200	184	287.1	129.1
Mar.	208	184		141.3
Apr.	214	184		125.9
May	212	185	284.5	127.1
June	223	183		132.5
July	220	180		124.8
Aug.	222	178	279.8	136.8
Sept.	227	179		138.1
Oct.	221	175		144.4
Nov.	214	177	282.4	158.3
Dec.	209	174		160.6
1950				
Jan.	205	172		159.2
Feb.	207	170	298.6	126.3
Mar.	210	171	145.5	145.5
Apr.	211	172		128.5
May	224	173	295.7	137.5
June	234	177		136.5
July	244	181		127.8
Aug.	245	177	309.4	137.0
Sept.	246	175		140.0
Oct.	237	177		150.0
Nov.	234	179		---

1/ 1935-39=100. 2/ BAE "market basket" data. 3/ Department of Commerce data.
4/ Total U. S. production except farm.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD PRICES, INCOMES, AND MEAT PRODUCTION



* BAE "MARKET BASKET" DATA

° COMMERCIAL

U. S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 47965-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

There are at least two major reasons for differences in present relative price levels of various food groups, as compared against a prewar base. When consumers have larger incomes they increase their demand for some kinds of foods, such as meats, more than for others. A second reason is that supplies of some foods change faster in response to demand than do others. Meat production has increased much since prewar years -- 40 percent more meat was produced commercially in 1949 than in a 1935-39 average year -- but it has not increased as much as demand. Hence, prices have risen considerably. (See table 5 and chart, page 15.)

Federal Beef Grade Standards Changed

Effective December 29 the Federal grade standards for steer, heifer and cow carcasses were revised. The changes were designed to make the grades more useful in reflecting beef production practices and consumer preferences, and were made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with producers, packers, retailers and others.

The changes include: (1) Combining the old Prime and Choice beef grades under the name Prime. Previously, the grade name Prime had little application because less than 1 percent of the beef graded qualified for that grade. (2) The old Good grade is renamed Choice. (3) A new Good grade consisting of beef from the higher quality young cattle previously graded Commercial. Commercial beef is now mostly beef from older cattle previously so graded. The dividing of the old Commercial grade permits a separate designation for high quality beef from young animals that did not previously qualify for a higher grade because of its low ratio of fat to lean.

These grade revisions did not affect standards for Utility, Cutter and Canner grades. To facilitate the change-over to the new grades, any retailer, wholesaler, packer or other meat handler may request to have beef Federally graded prior to December 29 restamped with the new grade designation without charge.

Federal grade standards for slaughter cattle have also been revised in line with the new beef grades. It is anticipated that changes in the standards for grades of veal and calf carcasses will soon be proposed. 1/

World Wool Production Continues to Rise

World wool production in 1950, according to the fall survey of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, is estimated at approximately 4,000 million pounds, grease basis, an increase of 140 million pounds over the 1949 output, and approximately 2 percent above the 1936-40 average output. About 3,150 million pounds of the 1950 clip was apparel wool and the rest coarse or carpet wool.

1/ A more detailed discussion of the Federal meat grading system was given in *The Livestock and Meat Situation* for May 1950.

Except for some reductions during 1947 and 1948 due to adverse weather conditions, wool production has increased steadily since the war in almost all the major wool producing countries other than the United States and Canada. The estimated 1950 production in Oceania (Australia and New Zealand) is a new high. African production has increased slowly since 1947 and is still not up to 1941-45 levels. Wool production in Argentina and Uruguay, which make up the bulk of South American output, has increased for two years but is still below the peak reached in 1946. Although a steady increase has been noted in Europe, prewar levels have not been attained. Production in the United States and Canada, which had been declining for six years, in 1950 was very close to that of 1949.

Lard, Tallow Off Import Control

The U. S. Department of Agriculture on November 25 removed from import control a number of fats and oils including lard, edible and inedible tallow, oleo oil and stearine, and fatty acids. The action was taken in line with the Department's general policy of removing import controls as soon as practicable. Among the items remaining under import restrictions were lard compounds and combinations and mixtures of animal and vegetable oils.

USDA Buys Smoked Picnics

The Department of Agriculture on November 17 and December 5 announced the contemplated purchase of a substantial quantity of smoked regular pork shoulder picnics for the National School Lunch Program for delivery during January and February. Offers to sell were submitted by a number of processors stating quantities, prices and other information requested under the terms of the announcements. A number of offers were accepted, and a counter offer was made to bidders in an attempt to purchase additional amounts. As of December 31 about 8.4 million pounds of smoked picnics were contracted for, less than half the purchase originally contemplated.

December 1 Holdings of Meat in Cold Storage Above Last Year

About 137 million pounds of meat were added to public cold storage holdings during November, bringing the December 1 total to 542 million pounds as compared with 493 million pounds on the same date in 1949. The December 1, 1950 quantity was larger than a year earlier for each kind of meat. In the first part of 1950 the quantities in storage were considerably below corresponding months in 1949, but net withdrawals during the summer were smaller this year than last.

Pork in storage increased 100 million pounds during November. The November 1949 increase was 88 million pounds and the 1945-49 average change for the month was 89 million pounds. Total pork holdings on December 1 were 319 million pounds, 22 million more than a year earlier and the most for the date since 1943.

Beef stocks increased 19 million pounds during November, raising December 1 holdings to 114 million pounds, more than last year's holding but below the 1945-49 average. Beef stocks were at their low point for the year on July 1 and have risen slowly since that time, whereas last year's holdings declined to a low on October 1.

A large livestock slaughter in December probably resulted in sizable storage operations, and the holdings on January 1 may have been above last year's level and above the average of the past five years.

World Hog Slaughter Continues Upward Trend

Commercial hog slaughter in the principal pork producing countries for which data are available was probably about 16 percent greater in 1950 than a year earlier, and about 30 percent above the prewar level, according to estimates summarized by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Hog slaughter in North America was approximately 7 percent above 1949, and substantially above prewar. Slaughter in European countries in 1950 was about two-thirds larger than in the preceding year but still below the 1934-38 average. Slaughter in South America declined slightly, largely due to the severe drought in Argentina. In Australia and New Zealand, hog slaughter was slightly below 1949, and well below prewar.

World hog slaughter for 1951 can be expected to be somewhat larger than the 1950 total, since increases seem likely under anticipated conditions in the majority of the producing countries. The largest gains are expected to occur in North America, particularly the United States and Canada. Increases are also expected in most of the European countries. Argentine hog slaughter is likely to be relatively larger and small increases may occur in Australia and New Zealand.

Canada to Send Fewer Cattle to the United States

Canadian cattle and beef are expected to move into the United States during the next year or two at a lower rate than during the past two years. This is a conclusion presented by C. L. Harlan, who recently conducted a study of Canadian conditions and prospects. The increased value of the Canadian dollar in terms of the United States dollar means that Canadian producers will receive relatively lower prices for exports to this country. Too, exports of Canadian cattle and beef probably could not be maintained at the level of the past two years without reducing breeding stock still further or cutting domestic Canadian consumption.

Canadian hog numbers are sharply below wartime peaks but substantially above prewar levels. With the large feed grain production this year and large supplies of frost damaged wheat, a substantial increase in production of hogs is likely in 1951. Canadian sheep numbers have dropped during the past six years, paralleling the decline in the United States. Lamb feeding is expected to be smaller this winter because of this reduction and the movement of considerable numbers of lambs to U. S. feeding lots.

CHANGES IN THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF SPRING AND FALL PIG CROPS

The United States annual pig crop -- a term designating the number of pigs saved each year -- is made up of crops from two farrowing seasons. The spring season centers about March and April and the spring pig crop is the number of pigs saved in the six months December through May. The fall season centers in August and September and comprises the months June through November.

The spring pig crop is larger than the fall crop. The difference between the two, however, has diminished over the past 25 years. In 1924, spring pigs were 68 percent of the year's total, and fall pigs 32 percent. In 1950, spring pigs were 60 percent and fall pigs 40 percent of the total (table 6).

Table 6.- Combined pig crop, and distribution by season, United States, by years, 1924-50

Year	Pig crop			Percent of annual crop	
	Annual total	By seasons			
		Spring 1/	Fall 2/	Spring	Fall
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head		
1924	50,218	23,847	74,065	67.8	32.2
1925	47,859	22,451	70,310	68.1	31.9
1926	50,579	24,865	75,444	67.0	33.0
1927	54,502	26,744	81,246	67.1	32.9
1928	52,390	26,292	78,682	66.6	33.4
1929	50,479	25,646	76,125	66.3	33.7
1930	49,332	24,803	74,135	66.5	33.5
1931	53,984	29,192	83,176	64.9	35.1
1932	51,031	31,494	82,525	61.8	38.2
1933	53,460	30,740	84,200	63.5	36.5
1934	39,698	17,068	56,766	69.9	30.1
1935	32,884	23,260	56,144	58.6	41.4
1936	41,422	24,303	65,725	63.0	37.0
1937	38,525	23,994	62,519	61.6	38.4
1938	43,289	28,566	71,855	60.2	39.8
1939	53,238	33,714	86,952	61.2	38.8
1940	49,584	30,282	79,866	62.1	37.9
1941	49,368	35,584	84,952	58.1	41.9
1942	61,093	43,810	104,903	58.2	41.8
1943	74,223	47,584	121,807	60.9	39.1
1944	55,754	30,905	86,659	64.3	35.7
1945	52,189	34,593	86,782	60.1	39.9
1946	52,392	30,548	82,940	63.2	36.8
1947	52,802	31,345	84,147	62.7	37.3
1948	51,266	33,921	85,187	60.2	39.8
1949	58,426	37,175	95,601	61.3	38.7
1950	59,997	40,657	100,654	59.6	40.4

1/ Spring season begins December 1 of preceding year.
2/ June 1-November 30.

Table 7.- Spring pig crop as percentage of annual crop, by regions and by States of the North Central region, 5-year averages, 1926-30 to date

Period	North Atlantic	North Central: East North Central: Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Michigan	Wisconsin	Total East North Central	West North Central: Four Plains States: North Dakota	South Dakota	Nebraska	Kansas	Total	Other States: Minnesota	Iowa	Missouri	Total	Total West North Central	Total North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1926-30	49.5	55.7	57.1	66.3	58.8	70.2	62.0	86.1	87.0	78.4	55.9	76.1	79.0	77.0	58.1	73.4	74.3	70.4	53.0	55.7	59.4	66.7
1931-35	50.3	54.1	55.0	62.4	56.9	67.3	59.0	85.5	82.9	76.3	57.9	73.6	76.8	74.0	54.7	70.3	71.4	67.0	54.4	53.9	57.6	63.7
1936-40	51.1	52.2	53.2	62.0	54.4	66.5	57.7	86.0	83.9	75.5	56.9	73.9	75.0	74.8	53.6	70.7	71.5	65.6	52.6	52.7	55.2	61.6
1941-45	51.0	52.4	51.9	59.7	53.3	64.0	56.3	86.0	84.0	71.6	54.1	72.1	72.6	70.9	51.9	67.4	68.6	63.7	52.1	51.4	55.1	60.3
1946-50	54.7	53.2	51.1	60.5	56.5	65.6	56.9	87.5	87.1	75.3	58.7	76.1	73.6	70.8	52.8	67.6	69.5	64.4	52.5	52.4	57.9	61.3

Table 8.- Percentage distribution of United States annual pig crops by regions, and by States of the North Central region, 5-year averages, 1926-30 to date

Period	North Atlantic	North Central: East North Central: Ohio	Indiana	Illinois	Michigan	Wisconsin	Total East North Central	West North Central: Four Plains States: North Dakota	South Dakota	Nebraska	Kansas	Total	Other States: Minnesota	Iowa	Missouri	Total	Total West North Central	Total North Central	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1926-30	2.0	5.0	6.0	8.3	1.6	3.4	24.3	1.5	4.6	8.3	4.2	18.6	7.3	18.8	7.1	33.2	51.8	76.1	6.3	11.5	4.1	100.0
1931-35	1.8	5.6	6.9	9.1	1.5	3.4	26.5	1.3	3.5	7.3	4.3	16.4	6.6	17.6	7.0	31.2	47.6	74.1	6.9	13.4	3.8	100.0
1936-40	2.3	6.3	7.7	9.4	1.8	3.9	29.1	1.0	2.2	3.9	2.4	9.5	6.9	17.2	5.8	29.9	39.4	68.5	8.6	16.0	4.6	100.0
1941-45	2.2	5.8	7.5	9.8	1.7	3.8	28.6	1.4	2.7	4.4	2.7	11.2	6.9	18.0	6.4	31.3	42.5	71.1	7.9	14.6	4.2	100.0
1946-50	2.0	6.0	8.0	10.5	1.6	3.5	29.6	0.9	2.6	4.2	2.0	9.7	6.5	19.7	6.9	33.1	42.8	72.4	8.7	13.8	3.1	100.0

The increase in the proportion of all pigs produced in the fall has two origins. It arises in part because more and more farmers in most sections of the country have shifted away from a one-crop system in hog raising. They have adopted instead the two-crop system, which, where it is feasible, yields a larger return from the hog enterprise in relation to investment. The second origin of the larger fall pig crops as shown by United States totals is the declining position of certain regions that typically produce only spring pigs.

The preceding tables 7 and 8 illustrate these two separate factors. Table 7 shows that in each region with the single exception of the North Atlantic States the spring pig crop has been a declining percentage of the annual crop since the 1920's. The rate of change was fairly sharp in the East and West North Central regions, which contain the Corn Belt, but less so in the South and West. Within the Corn Belt the fall pig crop has gained importance in nearly all States; the only exceptions are North and South Dakota and Kansas. States such as Ohio, Indiana and Missouri have almost reached a point where the fall crop equals the spring crop. Certain other States have shown a marked change in the 25-year period but are still predominantly spring crop States. The big producing State of Iowa, for example, had 77 percent of its year's crop in the spring in 1926-30 and had shifted to 71 percent by 1946-50.

Four States that on the whole are mainly spring-crop producers have contributed a declining percentage of the total United States pig crops over the past 25 years. These are North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. In 1926-30 they raised 18.6 percent of all United States pigs but in 1946-50 they raised only 9.7 percent. The lowered standing of this tier of Plains States, which in 1946-50 raised 76 percent of its pigs in the spring, and the rising position of a number of other States that produce sizable fall as well as spring pig crops, has increased the proportion of fall pigs in the United States annual pig crops.

SELECTED FEATURES, THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
1950 WITH ISSUE DATES

Cattle and calves:

Cash receipts, February, April, August.
Cost and margin of feeding steers, March, August, October.
Feeding, January, February, August, November, December.
Imports of cattle, March, July.
Live weight of slaughter, February, April, June, October.
Number January 1, February, October.
Outlook, October.
Price control, August, September.
Prices of beef steers by grades, January, February, April, May, October, November.
Slaughter by classes, April, October, November.
World numbers, April.

Feed:

Feed balance sheet, February, July, October.
Feed concentrate supply and meat production, July, October.
Feed production, March.
Market prices, June.
Outlook, October.

Hog and hog products:

Cash receipts, February, April, August.
Changes in the relative importance of spring and fall pig crops, December.
Comparisons of sows farrowed and hogs slaughtered, January.
Hog-corn ratio, February, May.
Hog-corn ratio and sows farrowing, March, September.
Hog numbers January 1 and June 1, February, June.
Hog prices by weights, January, February.
Lard production, February, May, June.
Live weight of slaughter, February, April, June, July, October.
Outlook, October.
Pig crops, February, March, June, October, December.
Prices barrows and gilts, June, October.
Price controls, September.
Receipts, July.
Slaughter, February, May, June, August, September, October.
Sows farrowing, March, June, December.
Spread between wholesale value of hog products and price of live hogs, January.
Support prices, June.
World slaughter, December.

Horses and mules:

Numbers January 1, February.
Outlook, October.

Livestock, general:

Grading system, May.
Location of slaughter plants and trend in volume, September.
Numbers on farms January 1, February.
Parity prices of meat animals, February.
Prices by classes, February, June.
Slaughter, February, May, June, July, September.
Subsidies, April.

Meats:

Sheep and lambs:

Indexes of other years may be found in December issues beginning 1945.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov. 1949	Jan.-Nov. 1950	1949 Nov.	1950 Oct.	1950 Nov.	1950 Dec.
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per						
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	28.84	32.49	36.25	31.94	33.10	
Good	do.	26.11	29.28	29.35	30.42	31.24	
Medium	do.	23.06	26.67	24.26	27.56	28.15	
Common	do.	19.77	23.15	19.02	22.76	23.90	
All grades	do.	25.79	28.80	28.21	30.49	31.41	
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.34	27.53	25.36	29.44	30.06	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.61	27.74	26.02	29.56	30.47	
Cows, Chicago							
Good	do.	18.92	21.75	17.56	22.10	22.88	
Common	do.	2/15.52	18.86	2/13.87	19.58	20.46	
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/14.49	16.31	3/12.89	16.74	17.82	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.64	30.93	26.95	32.52	32.30	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	21.86	26.32	21.45	26.92	28.46	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	20.00	22.92	18.90	24.30	25.00	
Veal calves	do.	23.05	26.03	21.70	27.50	28.20	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	19.81	18.89	16.10	19.07	18.23	
180-200 pounds	do.	20.22	19.47	16.33	19.51	18.47	
200-220 pounds	do.	20.30	19.62	16.29	19.72	18.42	
220-240 pounds	do.	20.15	19.55	16.18	19.84	18.33	
240-270 pounds	do.	19.79	19.27	16.05	19.87	18.23	
270-300 pounds	do.	19.23	18.85	15.92	19.82	18.16	
All weights	do.	19.64	19.17	16.04	19.64	18.21	
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.50	19.13	15.79	19.47	18.05	
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.55	16.71	14.74	18.41	17.08	
Price received by farmers	do.	18.63	18.26	15.60	19.20	17.80	
Hog-corn price ratio 5/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	15.0	13.1	13.9	12.9	11.5	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.9	13.8	15.3	14.0	13.0	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	10.80	12.37	11.09	14.34	15.47	
Price received by farmers	do.	9.47	11.11	8.86	12.80	13.20	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	25.77	26.92	23.13	27.98	29.41	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	6/23.10	7/27.06	23.25	28.90	29.22	
Price received by farmers	do.	22.85	24.45	21.40	25.80	26.70	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers							
(1910-14=100)		314	338	286	358	357	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	42.44	46.52	47.26	48.13	50.32	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	50.11	8/51.24	46.36	50.05	52.64	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.33	20.46	17.42	20.20	19.68	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.28	28.09	23.92	27.73	27.02	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	24.99	23.75	21.32	24.18	23.18	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.04	33.30	29.89	33.90	32.50	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	66.6	73.0	69.6	76.3	76.4	
Lamb	do.	67.7	69.2	62.5	69.3	71.2	
Pork, including lard	do.	41.5	40.6	37.9	42.8	41.2	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		223	235	213	241	240	
Retail (1935-39=100)		230	241	226	250	248	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Average of prices for August, September, October and November.
7/ Average of prices for January, February, March, August, September, October and November.
8/ Prices of 45-50 pound lambs used for March, April and May. No price for February.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov. 1949	Jan.-Nov. 1950	1949 Nov.	1950 Oct.	1950 Nov.	1950 Dec.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		138	140	168	168	165	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	3,060	2,888	432	763	483	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,446	2,663	212	591	238	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	12,157	11,993	1,116	1,169	1,151	
Calves	do.	5,939	5,404	585	515	505	
Sheep and lambs	do.	11,079	10,821	1,060	1,081	969	
Hogs	do.	46,555	50,187	6,003	5,102	6,144	
Percentage sows	Percent	16	---	10	10	---	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	976	986	968	988	998	
Calves	do.	209	206	237	225	214	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	96	95	93	95	
Hogs	do.	248	244	236	230	237	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	532	541	510	535	534	
Veal, per head	do.	116	115	129	124	117	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	46	45	44	45	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	56	56	57	57	56	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	140	136	134	131	134	
Lard, per head	do.	36	35	33	32	33	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	14	14	14	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	6,442	6,448	566	623	611	
Veal	do.	685	618	75	64	58	
Lamb and mutton	do.	487	492	48	47	43	
Pork 2/	do.	6,471	6,864	801	666	821	
Lard	do.	1,691	1,767	199	162	201	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	16,585	---	1,536	1,588	---	
Calves	do.	9,990	---	963	871	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	12,225	---	1,166	1,180	---	
Hogs	do.	56,144	---	7,072	6,098	---	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	8,425	---	751	813	---	
Veal	do.	1,143	---	119	105	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	534	---	52	51	---	
Pork 2/	do.	7,722	---	941	796	---	
Lard	do.	1,910	---	224	186	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	70	81	95	114
Veal	do.	---	---	9	8	9	12
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	8	6	8	10
Pork	do.	---	---	210	241	220	319
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	370	410	405	542

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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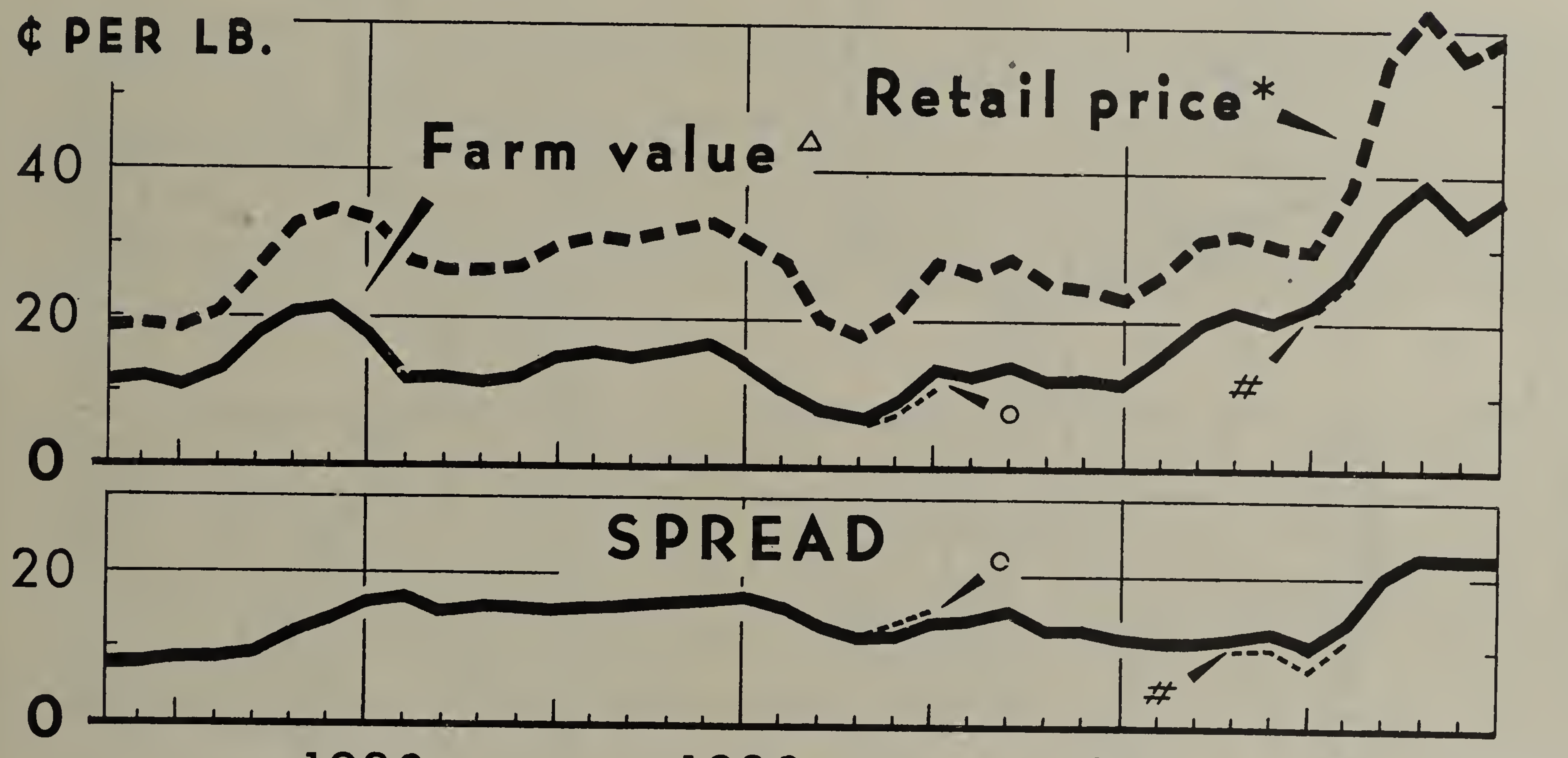
FOR RELEASE
FEB. 9, P. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-47 BAE JANUARY 1951

MEATS and MEAT PRODUCTS
U. S. Average Values and Marketing Charges



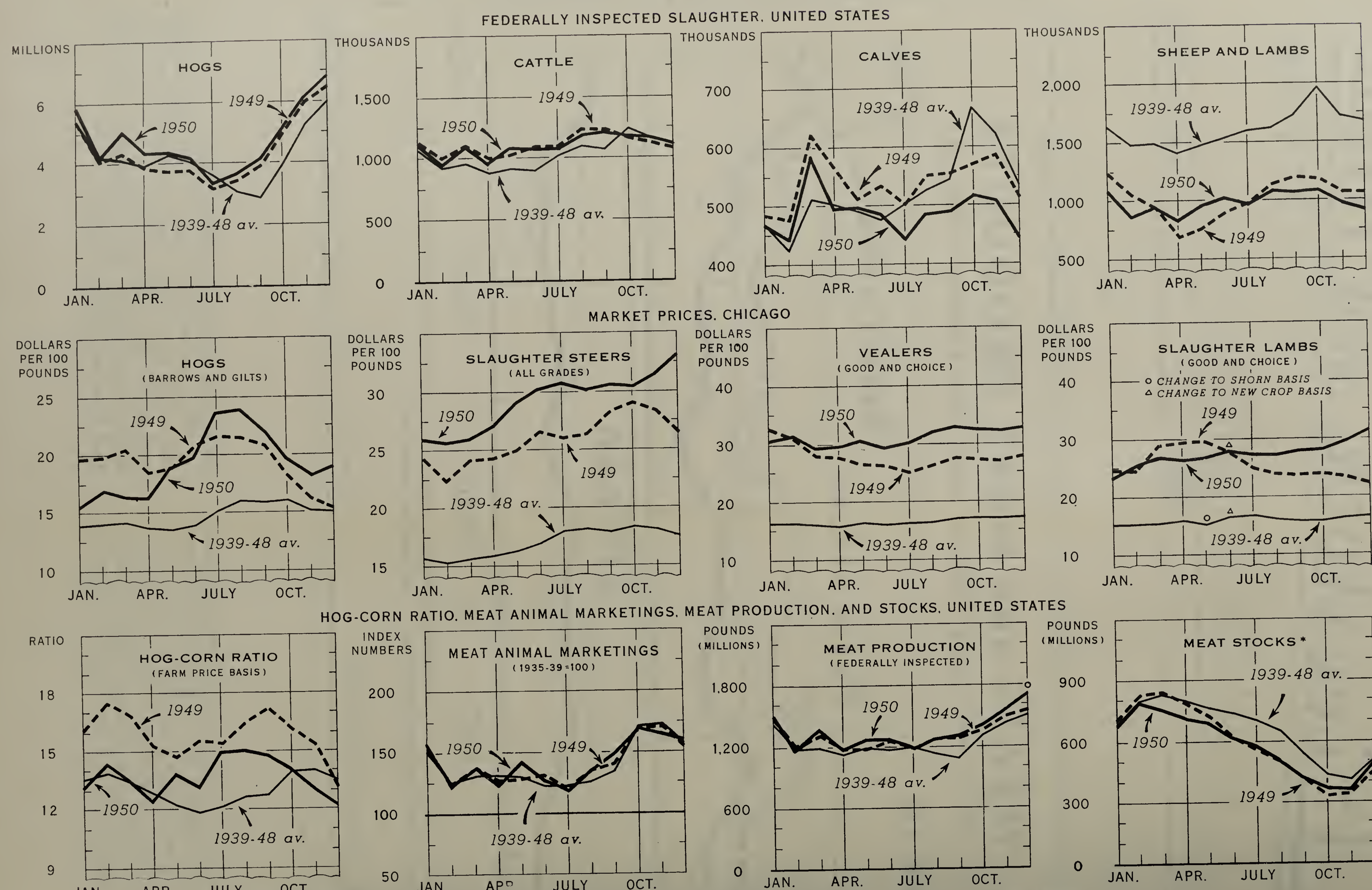
* AV. OF 335.4 LBS. MEAT PRODUCTS (MARKET BASKET) △ GROSS LESS BYPRODUCT ALLOWANCE
○ AAA HOG PROCESSING TAXES # SUBSIDY PAYMENTS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG.46676-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Average retail prices for meats advanced sharply in the spring and summer of 1950 and averaged higher for the year than in 1949. The marketing charge for meats, which is usually more nearly stable than prices of meats or meat animals, apparently did not change much in 1950 from its general postwar level.

The marketing charge for meats includes the entire spread from value of the live animal to price in the retail market, and covers marketing, processing and distribution costs for both live animals and meats.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION



* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
o ESTIMATED

U S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 47561 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, January 25, 1951

SUMMARY

On January 26 the Economic Stabilization Agency issued a general price and wage freeze which placed ceilings on wholesale and retail prices of meats. Ceilings on meat are the highest prices of the period from December 19 to January 25. Prices of live animals were not put under control.

Price trends up to the time of the order had been generally upward, as demand had increased further and slaughter supplies of livestock had been reduced seasonally.

Prices of hogs advanced considerably from mid-December to late January. Hog slaughter decreased in January from its early December peak but was above January last year. Slaughter will not increase until about the middle of March, when sizable marketings will begin from the 1950 fall pig crop.

Prices of cattle also rose in late 1950 and in January. The biggest increase from mid-fall was in the top grades. Slaughter of cattle in January was seasonally smaller than in December but slightly larger than last January. In both December and January, beef production was moderately larger than a year earlier. Greater numbers of well-finished cattle in market receipts lifted average slaughter weights substantially. Numbers of well-finished cattle marketed and total production of beef are likely to remain a little larger than last year.

Prices of lambs set new highs in January. Sheep and lamb slaughter, which at this season is made up largely of fed lambs, was somewhat smaller than in January last year. Slaughter will decline seasonally and will likely remain below a year earlier. The number of lambs on feed January 1 was down 6 percent from January 1949. The reduction was due to the smaller 1950 lamb crop and the increased proportion of ewe lambs retained last fall for addition to breeding herds. Except for the additional ewe lambs held back, lamb slaughter late in 1950 was fairly large relative to the size of the lamb crop.

Reports on numbers of cattle on feed and of hogs to be raised point to a moderate increase in meat production for 1951 compared with 1950. On January 1 a record number of cattle were on feed -- 5 percent more than last year. There were 2 percent more on feed in the Corn Belt this year than last and 15 percent more in the western States. However, the numbers on feed January 1 included an unusually large proportion of cattle of light weight, which will not reach market until late in the year. Prospects are that total beef production for the year will be moderately larger than last year.

Farmers saved 9 percent more pigs last fall than the previous fall and they have planned for 6 percent more pigs this spring than last. The increase in fall pigs will result in a roughly equivalent increase in pork production during the season from March through August, and the increase that is realized in spring pigs will govern pork production beginning in September. Slaughter weights of hogs are expected to average slightly heavier in 1951 than last year, thus contributing to the increase in total pork production.

Pork and beef supplies may be up enough in 1951 to fill military needs and provide 3 pounds more meat per person than the 145 pounds in 1950.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

January Meat Production Down Seasonally; Still Above Last Year

Total meat production in January was seasonally below December, but above January of last year. Production declined sharply at the holiday season, as it usually does, then recovered. January production of beef and pork was larger than last year, but production of veal and of lamb and mutton was smaller.

Hog Slaughter Down Seasonally; Further Decreases Likely

Hog slaughter and pork production decreased in January from the seasonal peak late last year but was still fairly large for the month. According to preliminary estimates, Federally inspected slaughter of hogs for the week ending January 20 totaled 1,584 thousand head, 177 thousand below the peak six weeks earlier. The number of hogs slaughtered under inspection the first three weeks in January was about 5 1/2 percent larger than a year earlier.

Hog slaughter will probably continue to decline until sometime in March, when marketings of hogs from the 1950 fall pig crop will begin in volume.

The total number of hogs slaughtered in the first three months of 1951 is expected to be only slightly larger than in the same period last year. The chief reason for this prospect is that the bulk of the increase in the 1950 spring pig crop over the previous crop has been accounted for by slaughter to date.

Beginning about the first of April, the number of hogs slaughtered will be considerably larger than a year earlier. The increase will reflect the 9 percent more pigs saved in the 1950 fall pig crop than in the fall crop of 1949. Most of the pigs born in the fall reach market between March and early September.

Slaughter Weights Up Seasonally

Weights of hogs slaughtered have been increasing seasonally for about four months. The average weight of barrows and gilts at 7 markets for the week ending January 20 was 246 pounds, 34 pounds above the 212 pound average for the first week of September and 7 pounds above the same January week last year.

Many of the hogs marketed in January were farrowed as long ago as last April, having been held past the December low point in prices. Since a 200 pound hog on full feed will gain about 50 pounds a month, such a postponement in marketing increases average weights appreciably. The average weight of barrows and gilts is expected to increase for the next month or so. Thereafter, receipts of lighter weight hogs from fall farrowings will reduce the average market weights.

Hog Prices Up From
Mid-December

Hog prices began to advance about the middle of December. Prices continued upward during most of January, though at a slower rate than during the last half of December. The average price of barrows and gilts at 7 markets for the week ending January 20 was $20.32, as compared with $19.37 a month earlier and $15.57 a year earlier.

Price Discounts For
Heavy Hogs Widen

Price discounts in January on hogs weighing over 240 pounds were greater than during December but not as large as last January.

Seasonal trends in price discounts are closely related to seasonal changes in supplies of hogs of various weights. Discounts are wide for heavy hogs in January because more of the hogs marketed then are heavy. The large supply of heavy hogs in January is made up mostly of heavy barrows and gilts. Few sows are slaughtered in that month. This is the opposite of the situation in mid-summer, when discounts are again wide but almost all the heavy hogs are sows.

Despite the widening discounts this January, producers who held hogs for the price advance beginning in mid-December generally gained by doing so. The over-all increase in hog prices was so sharp that heavy hogs sold for more per 100 pounds in January than did medium hogs in early December. This observation confirms the rule that seasonal changes in discounts are not alone a sufficient guide to producers in their choice of times to market their hogs, but should be considered along with seasonal changes in over-all prices. Past experience has shown that when the corn-hog ratio is average or above, producers having hogs weighing 200-225 pounds in December and early January can, in most years, profitably hold them three or four weeks longer and put on 40-50 pounds gain in weight. The same is true for producers having hogs weighing 200-225 pounds in May and June. In August to October, however, it is seldom profitable to hold hogs long after they reach 200-225 pounds, regardless of the relative price of corn and hogs.

Cattle Slaughter Decreases
Seasonally; Fed Cattle Still
Dominate Marketings

Cattle slaughter was seasonally smaller in January than at its recent high in early December but slightly above a year earlier. Slaughter for the first quarter of 1951 may be a little larger than in the same quarter last year.

Marketings of well-finished cattle are still a relatively big part of slaughter supplies. Because of them, average slaughter weights in recent months have been about 30 pounds above same months of the previous year. The total number of cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection in all of 1950 was 1 percent less than in 1949, but due to the heavier weights the year's inspected beef production was slightly larger. Similarly, heavy weights have been a principal factor in a larger beef production thus far in 1951 than in the same period of 1950. Numbers of well-finished cattle slaughtered and average weights for all cattle are likely to hold above the levels of last winter.

Prices Up Most For Well-Finished Cattle

Prices of slaughter cattle trended moderately higher in January following a sharp uptrend late in December. The December rise was confined mainly to the top grades but in January prices of all grades advanced. In early January, for the first time in almost a year, several carloads of top quality slaughter steers sold at Chicago for $40.00 per 100 pounds. The average price of Prime steers at Chicago for the week ending January 18 was $38.52, $2.40 higher than a month earlier for the comparable grade, and the average price for Utility steers was up $2.39 from a month earlier. Compared with the first week in December, however, Prime steers had advanced $3.51 and Utility steers $2.24. (For a discussion of comparable grade names in 1950 and 1951, see page 11.)

Prices of slaughter cows, bulls, heifers, and vealers also continued upward in January and at the end of the third week of the month were at or near record high levels.

Number of Cattle On Feed a New High

The 4,656,000 cattle reported on feed January 1 this year are 208,000 head or 5 percent more than the number on feed last January. The number this year is the largest on record, surpassing the previous high of January 1, 1949. In the Corn Belt, the number on feed this year is 2 percent larger than last. Indiana, Michigan and North Dakota are the only North Central States in which fewer cattle are on feed than last year. Feeding in the West is up 15 percent. Increases were reported for all western States except Idaho, New Mexico and Nevada. California reported 248,000 head of cattle on feed, 27 percent more than last year. (Table 1.)

Cattle on Feed Again Light in Weight

Cattle on feed in the Corn Belt were slightly lighter in weight this January 1 than last and much lighter than two years ago. Weights are lighter because an unusually large number of them were calves or light weight steers.

Feeders reported that they intend to market about the same proportion of their fed cattle by April 1 this year as last. The increased number of cattle on feed may thus result in larger marketings of fed cattle both during late winter and in the spring and following seasons as well.

Record Prices Paid For Stocker and Feeder Cattle

Prices for feeder cattle advanced in January as a result of a strong demand to refill feed lots and the seasonally reduced supplies. The average price of all steers shipped to the country from 5 markets passed $30.00 in early January, a new record price. They were about $8.60 higher than a year earlier.

Table 1.- Number of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, on feed January 1, by regions, 1935 to date

Year	Pennsylvania	North Central States: East North Central	North Central States: West North Central: 3 Corn Belt 1/	North Central States: West North Central: 4 Plains 2/	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States: California	Western States: Other Western	United States
Cattle and calves								
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1935	76	579	890	339	60	71	200	2,215
1936	84	750	1,130	640	145	100	353	3,202
1937	84	740	947	333	125	138	392	2,759
1938	92	840	1,199	452	192	152	409	3,336
1939	78	855	1,166	530	194	125	355	3,303
1940	74	944	1,330	522	194	163	406	3,633
1941	72	1,002	1,509	639	230	169	444	4,065
1942	70	961	1,521	772	251	128	482	4,185
1943	80	993	1,612	928	264	154	414	4,445
1944	75	905	1,517	802	172	134	410	4,015
1945	70	907	1,642	1,020	210	125	437	4,411
1946	82	888	1,500	948	166	149	478	4,211
1947	90	961	1,552	904	171	166	463	4,307
1948	85	850	1,250	744	165	209	518	3,821
1949	88	939	1,501	965	214	258	565	4,530
1950	88	976	1,564	909	216	196	499	4,448
1951 3/	84	967	1,598	963	235	248	561	4,656

Sheep and lambs

Year	11 Corn Belt States 4/: East	11 Corn Belt States 4/: West	Western States 5/	New York	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1935	1,040	2,330	2,249	50	5,669
1936	1,177	2,085	2,389	50	5,701
1937	1,203	1,590	2,754	50	5,597
1938	1,368	1,913	2,765	45	6,091
1939	1,194	2,007	2,639	45	5,885
1940	1,172	1,987	2,642	40	5,841
1941	1,186	2,492	2,744	54	6,479
1942	1,083	2,761	2,978	45	6,867
1943	1,049	3,260	2,596	49	6,954
1944	1,031	2,931	2,506	44	6,512
1945	950	3,404	2,521	36	6,911
1946	1,033	3,182	2,585	37	6,837
1947	821	2,872	1,965	35	5,693
1948	840	2,003	1,983	25	4,851
1949	697	1,771	1,510	25	4,003
1950	623	1,649	1,352	20	3,644
1951 3/	604	1,582	1,235	19	3,440

1/ Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri. 2/ North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ North Central States, except North Dakota. 5/ Eight mountain States, three Pacific States, Texas, Oklahoma, and North Dakota.

Shipments of feeder cattle this winter have been large for the season. Receipts at 8 Corn Belt States were up 12 percent in November and 27 percent in December from the previous year. Shipments from 5 markets in January were larger than those last January.

Fed Lamb Marketings Seasonally Large; To Decline

Sheep and lamb slaughter increased during January from its holiday low, but it was smaller than last January. It included large marketings of fed lambs. Unusually early placements of lambs on feed last fall caused marketings from feed lots to be earlier than usual. Sheep and lamb slaughter is expected to decline seasonally as the major feeding season is completed, and to remain moderately below 1950 levels for the next few months.

Sheep and Lamb Prices Record High

Prices of sheep and lambs continued to move up during January as demand for all classes was strong. Wooled Good and Choice slaughter lambs at Chicago averaged $34.86 the week ending January 20, $11.81 above the same week in 1950 and higher than the previous record price for either wooled or spring lambs. Prices of mature sheep continued to set new highs almost each succeeding week. Shorn Good and Choice ewes at Chicago for the week ending January 20 averaged $19.70 as compared with $16.20 a month earlier and $12.45 a year earlier.

Fewer Sheep and Lambs on Feed January 1

The 3,440,000 sheep on feed January 1 this year was 204,000 head or 6 percent less than a year ago, and the smallest number on feed since 1920. Reductions from last year were due primarily to the fewer lambs saved in 1950 than in 1949 and the relatively larger number retained for stock sheep.

In the Corn Belt, only Nebraska and Illinois reported increases in lambs on feed this January 1. Nebraska showed a sharp increase in feeding due largely to the shift of lambs from Kansas wheat pastures. Deterioration of wheat pastures in the Great Plains States caused considerable shifting of lambs this fall and winter to alternative pasture areas or to feed lots, or sometimes resulted in early marketing for slaughter.

Five of the western States had more lambs on feed than last year, though fewer than in previous years. In Colorado, the leading western feeding State, the number of lambs on feed reached a new low in 40 years of record, and the reduction there from 1950 was greater than the combined increase in the five other States.

Prices of feeder lambs have set record highs in recent weeks. The average price at Omaha for the week ending January 6, the latest week for which a price was reported, was $31.25 per 100 pounds, well above the $23.06 the same week in January 1950.

1951 Total Meat Production To Exceed 1950

Prospects are for a larger meat production in 1951 than in 1950. The greatest gain will probably be in pork, which will be upped by the 9 percent increase in the 1950 fall pig crop over the 1949 fall crop, and the 6 percent more pigs indicated for this spring than last. Prospects are that slaughter weights of hogs may be slightly heavier than in 1950, and will contribute to more pork.

A moderate increase over 1950 is also likely in output of beef. There will probably be less lamb and mutton this year than last. No great change is expected in output of veal.

The increase in supplies of pork and beef will provide for larger military demands for meat and may allow civilian meat consumption to increase by about 3 pounds per person over the 145 pounds consumed per person in 1950.

January 1 Meat Stocks Up 9 Percent

The into-storage movement of almost a quarter billion pounds of meat during December brought total cold storage holdings of all classes of meats on January 1 to 791 million pounds. These holdings were about 66 million pounds or 9 percent greater than those a year earlier.

With meat production in December at a peak for the year, each kind of meat showed a net gain in storage stocks in that month. The movement of 192 million pounds of pork into commercial storage was larger than a year earlier and was about in line with the increase in pork production over a year earlier. Total pork holdings of 518 million pounds on January 1 was 9 percent above last year. Beef stocks were increased at about the seasonal rate. The January holding was well above last year but still below the 1945-49 average. Frozen veal and frozen lamb and mutton in storage on January 1 were below last year and well below the average of the last five years.

Meat Prices Rise Further; Controls Established January 26

Retail prices of meats generally advanced in late December and early January. Price rises, particularly for pork, often occur at that season because of the seasonal decrease in slaughter. On January 26, the Economic Stabilization Agency announced price controls on meat at wholesale and retail. Ceilings named were the highest price of the period from December 19 to January 25. No control was placed on prices of live animals.

Bans Removed on Imports of Canned Meats from Mexico; Continue on Fresh Meat and Live Cattle

Effective December 30, 1950 certain canned and cooked meats and meat food products were permitted entry into the United States from Mexico for domestic consumption. Imports of fresh, chilled or frozen meats and of live animals are still prohibited from Mexico as well as from all countries in which foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist.

Unlike the fresh products, trade in canned meat is determined by whether the shipping country has a system of sanitary inspection that conforms to minimum United States standards. The Mexican system has been found acceptable.

The United States border was closed to imports of fresh beef and live cattle from Mexico on December 26, 1946 as part of the joint program for control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico. Thereafter, many of the cattle formerly shipped to the United States were slaughtered in meat canning plants in northern Mexico. As part of the over-all program, the United States agreed to purchase much of this canned beef, but only for re-export to foreign countries. Exports of canned meat from Mexico to the United States under this program reached an annual peak of 83 million pounds in 1949 but have been negligible since February 1950 (table 2).

Table 2.- Exports of canned meat from Mexico, by years 1946 to 1949, and January-July 1950

Year	Country of immediate destination: United States 1/	Other	Total
	Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds
1946	3,792	24	3,816
1947	2/	2/	10,970
1948	64,996	4	65,000
1949	83,363	11	83,374
1950 January-July	13,195	3/	13,195

1/ Mexican canned meat was held in storage or was in transit in the United States for distribution under foreign relief programs. 2/ Not available. 3/ Less than 500 pounds.
Foreign Crops and Markets, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

The three-year quarantine, vaccination, and slaughter program carried on jointly by Mexico and the United States has done much toward bringing foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico under control. A recent local outbreak of the disease has postponed the removal of restrictions on imports of fresh beef and live cattle into the United States.

Mexico has in the past been more important as a source of feeder cattle than of slaughter cattle or meat. Around 500,000 feeder cattle and calves were imported yearly.

Canada Lifts Restrictions
On Pork Shipments

The Canadian Government has announced that import and export restrictions on pork and pork products to and from Canada have been lifted. This action ends a three-year prohibition on entry of United States pork into Canada. It also ends controls on Canadian exports of pork, which were significant mainly in relation to Canada's pork contracts with Great Britain. For several months export licenses had been granted rather freely to Canadian exporters for secondary pork products such as cooked hams, bacon, tenderloins and other processed pork.

With the removal of restrictions on pork shipments, trading in livestock and meats between Canada and the United States now depends largely on the relative price differentials between the two countries, as modified by import duties and tariff quotas. Controls on exports of live and dressed cattle and sheep were removed by the Canadian Government in August 1948.

It is not anticipated that the lifting of export and import restrictions on pork will result in a large volume of trading in that meat between the two countries. Exports of pork from the United States to Canada averaged 21.0 million pounds, product weight, annually in 1937-41, and imports from Canada were 8.4 million pounds.

Imports of New Zealand
Meat Planned

Plans have been completed for shipping 11.2 million pounds of meat from New Zealand to the United States and Canada in late January or early February, the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations has announced. Four shipments of 2 million pounds each to the United States are proposed, a total of 8 million pounds. The New Zealand Meat Producers' Board will act as selling agent and sales in the United States will be handled by designated agents. Originally only the export of manufacturing meat, presumably ewe carcasses, was considered but the proposed shipment will include quantities of other meats. All shipments will be made to the east coast of the United States. They represent an attempt to lay a foundation for a permanent meat trade with North America.

Federal Grade Standards For
Slaughter Cattle Changed

Effective December 30 the Federal grade standards for slaughter cattle were revised. The changes were made primarily to bring the slaughter grades into line with new grades for steer, heifer and cow carcasses that were put into effect December 29. (See Livestock and Meat Situation for December 1950, page 16.)

The changes include: (1) The old Prime and Choice slaughter grades are combined under the name Prime. (2) For slaughter steers and heifers the old Good grade is renamed Choice. (3) A new Good grade is set up for young steers and heifers formerly included in the top half of the old Medium grade. (4) The new Commercial grade includes the remainder of the steers and heifers in the old Medium grade. For cows, the new Commercial grade includes animals formerly grading Good or in the upper half of the old Medium grade and is the top grade for cows. (5) The old Common grade is renamed Utility.

While these changes affect Federal grades for slaughter steers, heifers and cows, the names for two grades of bulls and stags are also changed. For both these classes the old Medium grade is renamed Commercial and the Common grade renamed Utility. The old Good grade of bulls and stags is unchanged.

Official market news reports have been on the basis of these new grades since January 1. While no official grading of live animals is done by the United States Department of Agriculture, the grades are available as guides, and do form the basis for uniform reporting in official market reports.

Western Winter Range Conditions About Average

Range feed conditions were about average during December for the western ranges as a whole. In general, January 1 conditions varied from good in the northern part of this area to poor in the southern part, where some areas of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Nevada were experiencing a drouth. Western ranges were mostly open during December and supplemental feeding was limited mostly to the dry areas. As a result, livestock have maintained about average condition ratings, and on January 1 were reported in about the same condition as a year earlier. Early lambing conditions have been favorable in Arizona and California but ewe bands are generally below average condition in the early spring lamb areas of Texas and New Mexico.

Meat Marketing Charges in 1950 Nearly the Same as 1949; Prices Higher

The average retail price of meat and the farm value of live animals increased in 1950 over 1949, but the marketing margin was more nearly stable according to estimates of this Bureau. 1/ On an all-meat basis, the average retail price of meat in 1950 at 59 cents was about 3 cents a pound higher than a year earlier. The farm value of live animals (as corrected for value of products other than meats, such as hides and pelts) showed close to the same increase as the retail price. The marketing margin -- the spread betwe the two prices -- thus changed little, holding its previous postwar level.

The apparent stability of marketing charges and the increase in price resulted in an increase in the percent of the consumers' meat dollar receive by farmers. The farmers' share of the retail meat dollar in 1950 is estimat ed as 62.3 cents, 2.1 cents above the share in 1949. Previously the farmers share had declined each year since 1945, when it was affected by price controls and subsidy payments, but the share in each postwar year was considerably above the 1937-41 average of 50 cents.

1/ Basic data published in Been, R. O., Price Spreads Between Farmers and Consumers, Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 4, BAE, USDA, Washington, 1949; and in the monthly Marketing and Transportation Situation.

An increase in the farmers' share is indicated for each kind of meat. For pork, the average retail price, the farm value and the marketing margin all declined slightly. The farmers' share of the retail pork dollar increased a little. For beef, the retail price (reported as Good grade, now Choice) and the farm value advanced substantially in 1950 from 1949 and the marketing charge increased moderately. The farmers' share of the beef dollar rose about 2 cents. For lamb, retail and farm prices increased but the marketing margin decreased, and the farmers' share of the lamb dollar rose 3 cents (tables 3 and 4).

Retail price data used in these comparisons are derived from average prices for individual cuts of meat reported by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The prices for beef and for lamb are simply averages of prices of carcass cuts, of a specified grade, and do not include prices of edible byproducts or processed products. The pork series includes an allowance for edible byproducts and minor pork products on a fresh basis. Price data for all meat combined include estimates for miscellaneous processed or canned meat products and sausages and, in the case of beef, they apply more nearly to all grades and qualities of the meat and live animals sold in any year than do data for the individual meat. For these reasons, price and margin data for all meats do not reflect exactly the trends for individual meats.

Price comparisons between the live animal and retail meat may also be made from data of the Production and Marketing Administration for Chicago and New York. In general, the PMA data show about the same change from 1949 to 1950 as do BAE United States average data in the case of pork, but indicate a somewhat greater increase than do BAE averages in the marketing charge for beef. Both PMA and BAE data point to some increase in margins in the second half of 1950 compared with the first half, particularly in margins for beef.

The net farm value as calculated for BAE data is the value of a quantity and grade of live animal equivalent to a retail pound of meat, as adjusted to eliminate the imputed value of inedible byproducts and, in certain years, for Government payments to producers and for processing taxes. For example, the farm value of 2.16 pounds of slaughter lamb less an allowance for inedible byproducts obtained from the live animal is compared with the retail price of one pound of lamb at retail.

The marketing charge per pound of meat is the difference between the retail price and the net farm value. This charge or margin covers cost and profits of the entire marketing process including the transportation, marketing and slaughter of livestock and the processing, transportation, wholesaling and retailing of meat. Many of these marketing costs such as labor, rents, materials and supplies, transportation charges, taxes and interest are relatively fixed over short periods of time. For this reason marketing charges tend to change more slowly and to continue a trend in one direction longer than do meat and livestock prices. They are particularly likely to be relatively stable during a period of sharply changing meat and livestock prices, such as those in the spring of 1950.

Table 3.- Average retail price of meats, farm value and marketing charge, per retail pound, by years 1937-50, by months 1950

Year or month	Retail price 1/	Net farm value 2/	Margin	Government processor payments 3/	Marketing charge 4/	Government payments to producers 5/	Adjusted farm value 6/
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
	All meat products						
By years:							
1937	28.5	13.7	14.8	---	14.8	---	13.7
1938	25.1	12.0	13.1	---	13.1	---	12.0
1939	24.4	11.6	12.8	---	12.8	---	11.6
1940	23.3	11.4	11.9	---	11.9	---	11.4
1941	26.6	15.1	11.5	---	11.5	---	15.1
1942	30.9	19.7	11.2	---	11.2	---	19.7
1943	32.0	21.6	10.4	1.1	11.5	---	21.6
1944	30.4	20.1	10.3	1.9	12.2	---	20.1
1945	30.0	21.8	8.2	2.8	11.0	0.2	22.0
1946	38.5	26.3	12.2	1.8	14.0	0.2	26.5
1947	55.4	35.4	20.0	---	20.0	---	35.4
1948	62.0	39.0	23.0	---	23.0	---	39.0
1949	56.0	33.7	22.3	---	22.3	---	33.7
1950 7/	59.1	36.8	22.3	---	22.3	---	36.8
By months, 1950:							
Jan.	53.2	31.1	22.1	---	22.1	---	31.1
Feb.	53.5	33.2	20.3	---	20.3	---	33.2
Mar.	54.3	33.5	20.8	---	20.8	---	33.5
Apr.	54.5	34.0	20.5	---	20.5	---	34.0
May	57.9	37.3	20.6	---	20.6	---	37.3
June	60.4	37.4	23.0	---	23.0	---	37.4
July	63.0	40.3	22.7	---	22.7	---	40.3
Aug.	63.8	39.9	23.9	---	23.9	---	39.9
Sept.	63.9	40.0	23.9	---	23.9	---	40.0
Oct.	61.4	38.4	23.0	---	23.0	---	38.4
Nov.	60.8	38.2	22.6	---	22.6	---	38.2
	Beef (reported as Good grade now Choice)						
By years:							
1937	31.6	19.3	12.3	---	12.3	---	19.3
1938	27.9	14.7	13.2	---	13.2	---	14.7
1939	28.6	15.7	12.9	---	12.9	---	15.7
1940	28.7	16.9	11.8	---	11.8	---	16.9
1941	30.7	18.6	12.1	---	12.1	---	18.6
1942	34.1	23.0	11.1	---	11.1	---	23.0
1943	35.2	25.7	9.5	1.1	10.6	---	25.7
1944	33.4	26.3	7.1	2.0	9.1	---	26.3
1945	32.7	26.4	6.3	3.9	10.2	0.4	26.8
1946	41.8	33.2	8.6	2.6	11.2	0.3	33.5
1947	61.1	44.2	16.9	---	16.9	---	44.2
1948	73.7	53.0	20.7	---	20.7	---	53.0
1949	66.8	45.6	21.2	---	21.2	---	45.6
1950 7/	73.6	51.7	21.9	---	21.9	---	51.7
By months, 1950:							
Jan.	67.1	50.1	17.0	---	17.0	---	50.1
Feb.	66.8	50.1	16.7	---	16.7	---	50.1
Mar.	67.6	49.3	18.3	---	18.3	---	49.3
Apr.	68.1	48.8	19.3	---	19.3	---	48.8
May	72.2	51.0	21.2	---	21.2	---	51.0
June	75.5	52.0	23.5	---	23.5	---	52.0
July	77.9	52.4	25.5	---	25.5	---	52.4
Aug.	77.8	51.6	26.2	---	26.2	---	51.6
Sept.	77.2	52.7	24.5	---	24.5	---	52.7
Oct.	76.3	52.6	23.7	---	23.7	---	52.6
Nov.	76.4	54.6	21.8	---	21.8	---	54.6

1/ Calculated from "market basket" of 335.4 pounds of meat and meat products consisting of 135.6 pounds of beef, 16.7 pounds of lamb, 157.5 pounds of pork, including lard, and 25.6 pounds of other meat products. Source material reported in Price Spreads Between Farmers and Consumers, 1933-49, USDA Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 4, November 1949 and current issues of The Marketing and Transportation Situation.
2/ Farm value of live animal weight and grade necessary to produce 1 pound of meat products at retail minus the computed value of byproducts other than the edible byproducts included in the average retail price of all meat products. Standard factors are 2.16 pounds of cattle to produce 1 pound of beef at retail, 2.16 pounds of live lambs to produce 1 pound of lamb at retail, and 1.41 pounds live hog to produce 1 pound of pork and lard at retail. (Footnotes continued on page 15.)

Table 3.- Average retail price of meats, farm value and marketing charge, per retail pound, by years 1937-50, by months 1950 (Cont'd.)

Year or month	Retail price 1/	Net farm value 2/	Margin	Government processor payments 3/	Marketing charge 4/	Government payments to producers 5/	Adjusted farm value 6/
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
				Pork, including lard			
By years:							
1937	24.2	13.5	10.7	---	10.7	---	13.5
1938	21.1	10.8	10.3	---	10.3	---	10.8
1939	18.9	8.8	10.1	---	10.1	---	8.8
1940	16.5	7.5	9.0	---	9.0	---	7.5
1941	21.2	12.7	8.5	---	8.5	---	12.7
1942	26.2	18.2	8.0	---	8.0	---	18.2
1943	27.2	19.2	8.0	1.0	9.0	---	19.2
1944	25.6	18.2	7.4	1.8	9.2	---	18.2
1945	25.6	19.6	6.0	2.2	8.2	---	19.6
1946	33.4	24.0	9.4	1.4	10.8	---	24.0
1947	47.2	33.6	13.6	---	13.6	---	33.6
1948	47.5	32.4	15.1	---	15.1	---	32.4
1949	41.1	25.4	15.7	---	15.7	---	25.4
1950 7/	40.7	25.3	15.4	---	15.4	---	25.3
By months, 1950:							
Jan.	35.7	21.0	14.7	---	14.7	---	21.0
Feb.	36.4	23.1	13.3	---	13.3	---	23.1
Mar.	37.1	22.4	14.7	---	14.7	---	22.4
Apr.	36.6	21.7	14.9	---	14.9	---	21.7
May	39.3	25.7	13.6	---	13.6	---	25.7
June	40.8	24.7	16.1	---	16.1	---	24.7
July	43.7	29.9	13.8	---	13.8	---	29.9
Aug.	46.0	30.0	16.0	---	16.0	---	30.0
Sept.	46.6	29.3	17.3	---	17.3	---	29.3
Oct.	42.8	26.7	16.1	---	16.1	---	26.7
Nov.	41.2	24.7	16.5	---	16.5	---	24.7
				Lamb			
By years:							
1937	28.4	14.5	13.9	---	13.9	---	14.5
1938	26.4	12.3	14.1	---	14.1	---	12.3
1939	26.4	13.2	13.2	---	13.2	---	13.2
1940	26.1	13.4	12.7	---	12.7	---	13.4
1941	27.8	15.4	12.4	---	12.4	---	15.4
1942	32.4	19.2	13.2	---	13.2	---	19.2
1943	35.9	21.9	14.0	0.9	14.9	---	21.9
1944	35.1	21.2	13.9	1.6	15.5	---	21.2
1945	35.2	22.0	13.2	0.9	14.1	1.4	23.4
1946	42.1	26.8	15.3	---	15.3	2.2	29.0
1947	56.7	37.3	19.4	---	19.4	---	37.3
1948	64.3	42.1	22.2	---	22.2	---	42.1
1949	67.4	41.4	26.0	---	26.0	---	41.4
1950 7/	69.5	44.6	24.9	---	24.9	---	44.6
By months, 1950:							
Jan.	62.8	38.3	24.5	---	24.5	---	38.3
Feb.	63.6	40.1	23.5	---	23.5	---	40.1
Mar.	65.8	42.7	23.1	---	23.1	---	42.7
Apr.	69.2	43.4	25.8	---	25.8	---	43.4
May	70.7	46.4	24.3	---	24.3	---	46.4
June	74.0	47.5	26.5	---	26.5	---	47.5
July	73.0	46.3	26.7	---	26.7	---	46.3
Aug.	70.7	45.7	25.0	---	25.0	---	45.7
Sept.	71.0	45.6	25.4	---	25.4	---	45.6
Oct.	69.3	44.9	24.4	---	24.4	---	44.9
Nov.	71.2	46.3	24.9	---	24.9	---	46.3

3/ Government payments were made to slaughterers of hogs, cattle, calves, sheep and lambs beginning June 1943 and continuing for most classes through June 1946, and again in September and the first half of October 1946.
4/ "Adjusted margin". Equals margin plus Government payments to slaughterers.
5/ Government payments to hog producers in 1933-36 were made under the AAA hog and corn reduction program. In 1945 and 1946 payments were made to sheep and lamb producers for sheep and lambs sold for immediate slaughter and payments previously made to processors of sheep and lambs were withdrawn. Also in 1945 and the first half of 1946 payments were made to farmers for cattle sold for immediate slaughter at weights above 800 pounds and prices above designated amounts.
6/ Net farm value plus Government payments to livestock producers.
7/ Preliminary estimate.

Table 4.- Net farm value as percentage of retail price of meat products, by years 1937-50, by months, 1950

Year or month	All meat products	Beef (reported as Good grade, now Choice)	Pork (including lard)	Lamb
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
By years:				
1937	48.1	61.1	55.8	51.1
1938	47.8	52.7	51.2	46.6
1939	47.5	54.9	46.6	50.0
1940	48.9	58.9	45.5	51.3
1941	56.8	60.6	59.9	55.4
1942	63.8	67.4	69.5	59.3
1943 1/	67.5	73.0	70.6	61.0
1944 1/	66.1	78.7	71.1	60.4
1945 1/ 2/	72.7	80.7	76.6	62.5
1946 1/ 2/	68.3	79.4	71.9	63.7
1947	63.9	72.3	71.2	65.8
1948	62.9	71.9	68.2	65.5
1949	60.2	68.3	61.8	61.4
1950 3/	62.3	70.2	62.2	64.2
By months, 1950:				
Jan.	58.5	74.7	58.8	61.0
Feb.	62.1	75.0	63.5	63.1
Mar.	61.7	72.9	60.4	64.9
Apr.	62.4	71.7	59.3	62.7
May	64.4	70.6	65.4	65.6
June	61.9	68.9	60.5	64.2
July	64.0	67.3	68.4	63.4
Aug.	62.5	66.3	65.2	64.6
Sept.	62.6	68.3	62.9	64.2
Oct.	62.5	68.9	62.4	64.8
Nov.	62.8	71.5	60.0	65.0

1/ In 1943-46 Government payments to slaughterers reduced the retail price of meat and therefore increased the percentage of the retail price received by producers of livestock.
2/ In 1945 and 1946 the total return to farmers ("adjusted farm value") was a somewhat larger part of the retail price of beef, lamb, and all meat than the figures shown here, because of Government payments made to feeders of cattle and sheep.
3/ Preliminary estimates.

Table 5.- Average retail price, farm value and marketing charges for all meats combined, 1913-50 1/

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Retail price	Net farm value	Margin	Government processor payments	Processing taxes on hogs	Marketing charge	Government payments to producers	Adjusted farm value
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1913	18.7	11.2	7.5			7.5		11.2
1914	19.2	11.5	7.7			7.7		11.5
1915	18.6	10.4	8.2			8.2		10.4
1916	20.4	12.2	8.2			8.2		12.2
1917	26.4	17.7	8.7			8.7		17.7
1918	32.6	20.6	12.0			12.0		20.6
1919	34.7	20.9	13.8			13.8		20.9
1920	33.8	17.7	16.1			16.1		17.7
1921	27.7	11.2	16.5			16.5		11.2
1922	26.7	11.9	14.8			14.8		11.9
1923	26.7	11.1	15.6			15.6		11.1
1924	27.0	11.5	15.5			15.5		11.5
1925	30.0	14.7	15.3			15.3		14.7
1926	30.8	15.4	15.4			15.4		15.4
1927	30.4	14.6	15.8			15.8		14.6
1928	32.0	15.8	16.2			16.2		15.8
1929	33.2	16.6	16.6			16.6		16.6
1930	31.0	14.0	17.0			17.0		14.0
1931	25.7	9.8	15.9			15.9		9.8
1932	20.0	6.8	13.2			13.2		6.8
1933	17.7	6.3	11.4		.1	11.3	.1	6.4
1934	20.6	7.2	13.4		1.5	11.9	1.5	8.7
1935	27.7	12.2	15.5		1.6	13.9	1.6	13.8
1936	26.3	12.4	13.9			13.9		12.4
1937	28.5	13.7	14.8			14.8		13.7
1938	25.1	12.0	13.1			13.1		12.0
1939	24.4	11.6	12.8			12.8		11.6
1940	23.3	11.4	11.9			11.9		11.4
1941	26.6	15.1	11.5			11.5		15.1
1942	30.9	19.7	11.2			11.2		19.7
1943	32.0	21.6	10.4	1.1		11.5		21.6
1944	30.4	20.1	10.3	1.9		12.2		20.1
1945	30.0	21.8	8.2	2.8		11.0	0.2	22.0
1946	38.5	26.3	12.2	1.8	---	14.0	0.2	26.5
1947	55.4	35.4	20.0			20.0		35.4
1948	62.0	39.0	23.0			23.0		39.0
1949	56.0	33.7	22.3			22.3		33.7
1950	59.1	36.8	22.3			22.3		36.8

1/ For 1937-50 repeats data in first section of table 3.
See heading and footnotes of table 3 for explanation of data in each column.

PRICE MARGINS IN FEEDING CATTLE, BY GRADES, 1947-50

by Harold F. Breimyer

Much of the profit in feeding cattle can be traced to the difference between the price paid per hundredweight for cattle as feeders and the price received, after a normal feeding interval, when they are sold as slaughter cattle. This price margin in feeding has varied considerably the last four years according to the grade and types of cattle fed. It has averaged larger for top than for lower grades of cattle fed, but it has also fluctuated over a wider range for the top grades. Thus, cattle feeders have had more of a chance for a big price gain, and more risk of loss, when they fed the better grade cattle than when they fed the lower grades.

Because seasonal highs and lows in prices came at different times for various grades of cattle, and because the feeding period is normally longer for top than for lower grades, price margins in 1947-50 for feeding the best grade were largest when the fed cattle were sold in the fall or early winter; for the second best grade when sold in the summer or early fall, and for a lower grade when sold in the spring or early summer.

Data on cattle prices and calculated margins for the postwar years 1947-50 are presented and explained in the tables and text that follow.

Grades of Cattle and Systems of Feeding

In the Corn Belt many kinds of cattle are fed in many different ways. Some are beef animals of finest breeding that are fed to high finish in a carefully regulated feeding program. At the other extreme, even scrub dairy animals are sometimes given a small grain ration to prepare them for market. Some grain feeding programs are combined with extensive periods of grazing or roughage feeding. Nevertheless, throughout these many forms there run certain systems of feeding that are sufficiently common and uniform that they can be regarded as standard or typical.

Systems of cattle feeding can be classified according to the grade and classes of cattle that are fed. This is possible because each kind of cattle is most adapted to a particular system, and because grade and class names for feeders and slaughter cattle fit the various systems. The grade specifications established for feeders are based not only on the appearance of animals when graded, but also on their suitability for feeding to slaughter weight. Thus a lower grade feeder steer is well suited, as a general rule, to feeding within a short period to a lower grade slaughter animal. A top grade steer is suited to longer feeding with a top slaughter grade as the objective.

In line with these distinctions, five feeding systems are presented in this analysis. They consist of three that begin with yearling feeder steers and two that begin with feeder steer calves. In each, the feeding ends at the slaughter grade comparable to the grade of the original feeder. However, because only a single price is reported for feeder steer calves, a combined grade of calves is separately compared with each of two grades of slaughter steers.

Among specific modifications of these basic systems that may be mentioned but are not treated here is up-grading or down-grading in feeding. This is feeding to a slaughter grade higher or lower than the comparable grade as a feeder. Thus, lower grade feeders are sometimes fed a long time to near a top slaughter grade. On the other hand, top grade feeders are occasionally shipped half-fed as lower grade slaughter animals. Furthermore, the systems discussed here do not apply directly to cattle pastured before being moved into feed lots, or fed grain while on pasture. They are set up only for cattle fed continuously on grain and roughage for a stated length of time in drylot.

Methods of Calculating Margins

Calculating price margins in feeding begins with market prices of feeders and of slaughter cattle. Prices at Kansas City, the leading feeder cattle market, are used for feeders and those at Chicago for slaughter steers. Prices are taken for the weight and grade classes in market quotations that most nearly fit the five feeding systems selected for analysis. For the three systems of feeding yearling steers, the three weight and grade classes for feeders are 500-800 pound Choice, 500-800 pound Good, and 500-1,000 pound Medium stocker and feeder steers. The three most nearly comparable grades and weights of slaughter steers, according to the grade names in use during the years studied, are 900-1,100 pound Choice, 900-1,100 pound Good, and 700-1,100 pound Medium Corn Belt steers sold for slaughter. For the two systems of calf feeding, the only feeder calf grade reported is Good and Choice stocker and feeder steer calves. Margins for feeding these calves to top grade are calculated from the price of 900-1,100 pound Choice slaughter steers (as previously named), and those for feeding calves to the next best grade are calculated from the price of 900-1,100 pound Good slaughter steers.

Names for grades of slaughter steers were changed at the beginning of 1951, but those for feeder steers and steer calves were left unchanged. All the data and analysis here are in terms of the names in effect prior to 1951. The principle of feeding of steers or calves to a slaughter grade comparable to their original feeder grade, which underlies the five feeding systems, is represented in the old terminology by Choice feeders fed to Choice slaughter cattle, Good to Good, and so on. Observations made from the 1947-50 experiences can still be applied to the same kind of feeding, but in terms of 1951 names the slaughter grade will be raised one level 2/.

Feeding margins are calculated as the difference between the prices of slaughter cattle when sold and of feeder cattle several months earlier. The length of feeding period is different for each grade. For Choice yearling steers it is considered to be eight months, for Good yearling steers it is six months, and for Medium steers, four months. For Good and Choice steer calves carried to Choice slaughter grade it is assumed to be 11 months, and for Good grade is eight months.

2/ The detail in changes of names of slaughter steers is as follows:

Formerly	Now
Prime and Choice	Prime
Good	Choice
Medium, divided into	(Good (Commercial
Common	Utility

Feeding margins so calculated are strictly price comparisons on a hundredweight basis. They do not directly relate to net returns per animal since the feed and other farm costs are not considered. Nor are transportation and marketing costs between Kansas City and the farm included, or those between the farm and Chicago. Feeding and other costs differ somewhat by grades. The feeding margin is very important in cattle feeding since much of the profit in feeding comes from successful methods of buying and marketing which provide favorable margins. Mistakes in marketing can take away the profits that would otherwise be earned from efficiency in putting on weight gains.

Feeding Margins and Their Variability by Grades

In 1947-50, margins in feeding of yearling steers averaged largest for the Choice and smallest for the Medium grade. Margins also varied most for the Choice grade. The chances of very profitable margins or of no margin or even negative margins thus were greater when the top grade rather than a lower grade of steers was selected for feeding.

These comparisons appear in the charts on page 22. The lowest section presents feeding margins derived from the actual prices of the upper three sections. When margins were generally high the margin for Choice steers exceeded that for other grades, but in the low-margin period of early 1949 the margins for Choice were smallest, or were negative. Margins for Medium steers as a rule were smaller but they dropped least during a slump.

The actual margins in 1947-50 are not truly representative of a long period. Prices of cattle were unusually high in those years. Moreover, prices trended upward most of that time except the second half of 1948, allowing feeders to realize margins wider than were expected when feeding began -- and wider than a long-run average. But even though the general size of margins is not representative, their differences by grades of cattle fed are probably very nearly so. The experiences in those years are fairly indicative of usual differences in price margins for the several systems of feeding.

For all the 48 months of the period studied, the average price margin in feeding Choice yearling steers was $8.49 per 100 pounds, for the Good grade was $6.74 and for the Medium grade was $4.59 (table 8). Data for those months also demonstrate the larger variations in margins for the higher grades. The average variation in the margin -- the average departure from the margins of $8.49, $6.74 and $4.59 -- was $3.44 per 100 pounds for the Choice grade, $2.61 for Good, and $1.88 for Medium.

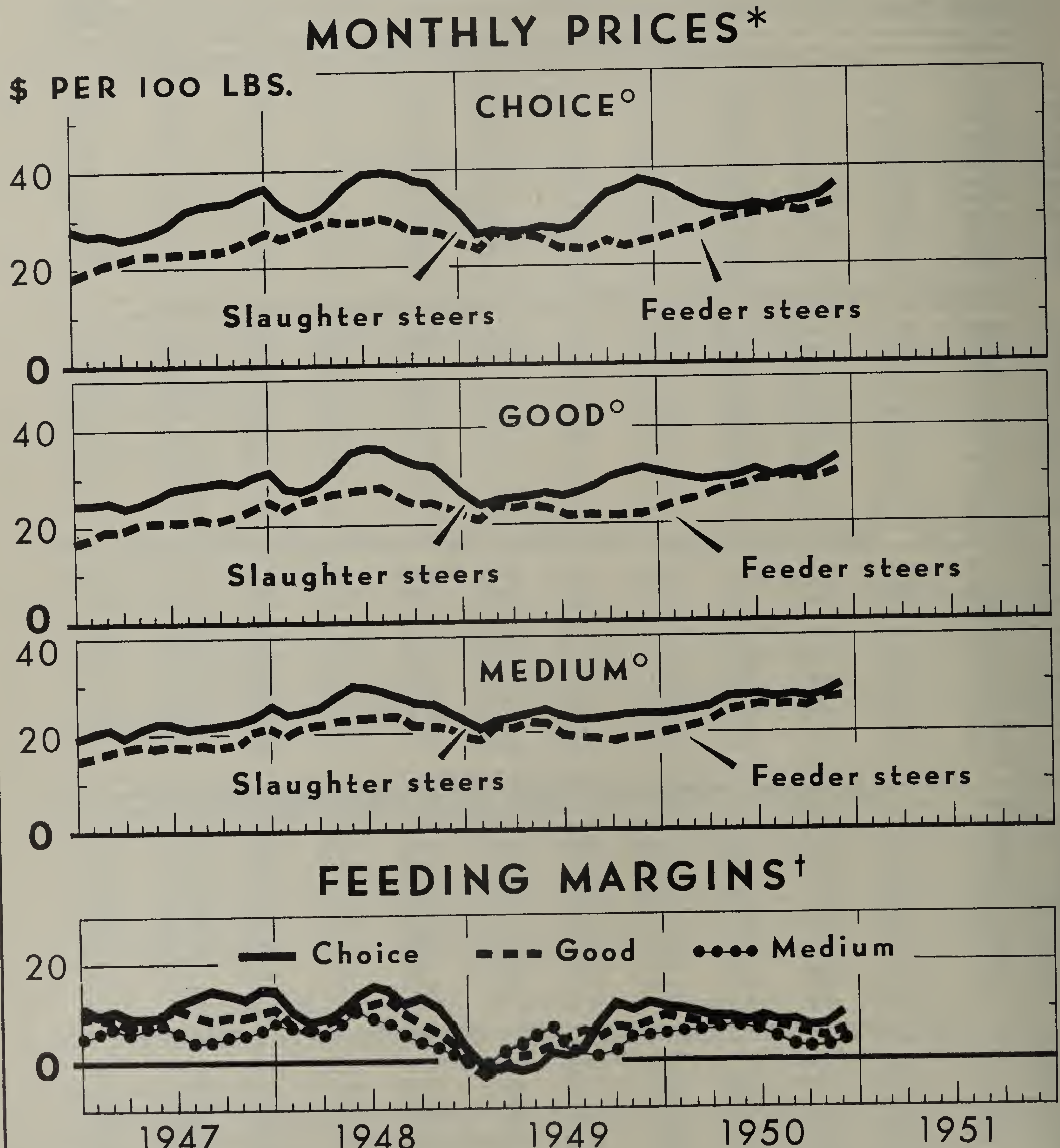
Margins for top grades of steers vary most for two reasons. First, prices of the higher grades of both feeder and slaughter steers fluctuate more than do those of lower grades, as is shown by the greater dipping and rising of price curves in the upper section of the chart than in the lower sections. The second reason is that even if the pattern were no different, the net cumulative price change while top cattle are being fed would usually be larger than for lower grades due simply to the longer period involved.

Table 6.- Price of slaughter steers at Chicago and of stockers and feeders at Kansas City and lagged margin, for feeding yearling steers and steer calves, by grades, by months 1947 to date

Month	1947 Price per 100 lb. Slaughter steers, Chicago	1947 Price per 100 lb. Feeder steers, Kansas City	1947 Margin, price of slaughter steers less earlier price of feeders 1/	1948 Price per 100 lb. Slaughter steers, Chicago	1948 Price per 100 lb. Feeder steers, Kansas City	1948 Margin, price of slaughter steers less earlier price of feeders	1949 Price per 100 lb. Slaughter steers, Chicago	1949 Price per 100 lb. Feeder steers, Kansas City	1949 Margin, price of slaughter steers less earlier price of feeders	1950 Price per 100 lb. Slaughter steers, Chicago	1950 Price per 100 lb. Feeder steers, Kansas City	1950 Margin, price of slaughter steers less earlier price of feeders
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
	Prices and Margins in Yearling Steers											
	Choice 900-1,100 lb. slaughter steers, Choice 500-800 lb. feeder steers, 8 months feeding 2/											
Jan.	28.06	18.63	11.33	36.70	27.73	14.24	30.81	24.46	1.65	36.80	24.84	10.81
Feb.	26.65	19.38	9.68	32.59	25.61	9.97	26.65	23.17	-2.38	35.76	26.16	10.36
Mar.	26.98	20.85	10.19	30.44	26.60	7.66	27.27	26.20	-1.92	33.79	26.85	9.79
Apr.	25.87	21.17	9.00	30.90	27.55	8.08	27.06	25.63	-2.74	32.00	27.44	8.20
May	26.04	22.46	8.66	33.08	29.16	9.73	27.12	25.99	-1.71	31.86	29.23	8.12
June	27.46	22.62	9.02	36.74	29.03	13.49	28.15	25.40	0.87	31.68	29.97	7.37
July	29.79	22.78	12.01	38.88	29.19	14.78	27.63	24.00	0.59	32.06	30.29	8.20
Aug.	31.74	22.82	13.36	39.78	29.80	14.04	28.29	23.80	1.98	31.58	30.36	7.40
Sept.	32.83	23.35	14.20	39.15	28.83	11.42	31.55	23.74	7.09	32.21	30.97	7.37
Oct.	33.13	23.25	13.75	37.95	27.28	12.34	34.52	24.31	11.35	32.34	30.68	6.18
Nov.	33.70	24.10	12.85	37.21	27.04	10.61	36.27	23.86	10.07	33.59	31.77	6.74
Dec.	35.64	25.74	14.47	34.12	26.31	6.57	37.49	24.18	11.86	36.45	32.43	9.01
	Good 900-1,100 lb. slaughter steers, Good 500-800 lb. feeder steers, 6 months feeding 2/											
Jan.	24.17	16.83	8.67	31.15	24.38	10.52	26.10	21.96	-0.71	30.52	22.52	8.68
Feb.	24.31	18.08	9.27	27.66	22.89	6.96	23.34	20.86	-3.75	29.72	23.58	8.26
Mar.	24.57	19.22	8.55	27.07	24.40	5.96	24.47	23.69	-1.20	28.88	24.60	7.46
Apr.	23.67	19.23	6.98	28.08	24.90	7.48	24.71	23.25	0.63	28.35	25.28	7.10
May	24.45	20.26	8.45	30.78	26.36	9.23	25.16	23.97	1.10	29.43	27.30	8.09
June	25.67	20.40	9.10	34.80	26.53	11.52	26.39	23.47	2.83	29.91	27.73	8.16
July	27.40	20.63	10.57	35.80	26.81	11.42	25.81	21.84	3.85	30.49	28.61	7.97
Aug.	27.58	20.70	9.50	35.50	27.09	12.61	26.29	21.46	5.43	29.98	28.61	6.40
Sept.	28.48	21.11	9.26	33.85	25.67	9.45	27.74	21.42	4.05	30.28	29.04	5.68
Oct.	28.91	20.60	9.68	32.20	24.08	7.30	29.55	21.25	6.30	30.22	28.54	4.94
Nov.	28.87	21.55	8.61	31.50	24.06	5.14	30.07	21.34	6.10	31.49	29.67	4.19
Dec.	30.13	23.28	9.73	29.25	23.56	2.72	31.18	21.75	7.71	33.51	30.21	5.78
	Medium 700-1,100 lb. slaughter steers, Medium 500-1,000 lb. feeder steers, 4 months feeding 2/											
Jan.	19.19	14.60	5.19	25.54	20.72	7.78	22.40	19.20	0.01	23.64	19.75	5.20
Feb.	20.26	15.52	5.93	23.71	19.38	6.58	20.52	18.31	-0.39	23.87	20.51	5.62
Mar.	20.68	16.67	7.06	24.19	21.02	6.09	22.65	21.17	1.95	24.28	21.62	5.67
Apr.	19.92	16.93	5.64	25.05	21.68	5.00	22.87	20.94	2.59	24.89	22.40	6.14
May	21.10	17.47	6.50	27.48	22.69	6.76	23.61	21.71	4.41	26.76	24.47	7.01
June	22.43	17.31	6.91	29.50	22.85	10.12	24.18	20.81	5.87	27.25	24.69	6.74
July	22.39	17.57	5.72	29.38	23.18	8.36	22.62	18.78	1.45	27.58	25.67	5.96
Aug.	20.47	17.33	3.54	28.69	23.21	7.01	22.05	18.50	1.11	26.89	25.59	4.49
Sept.	21.14	17.76	3.67	27.40	22.39	4.71	22.07	18.44	0.36	27.17	25.66	2.70
Oct.	21.64	17.13	4.33	26.04	20.91	3.19	22.78	18.25	1.97	26.79	25.05	2.10
Nov.	22.15	18.10	4.58	25.80	20.70	2.62	23.34	18.61	4.56	27.79	26.12	2.12
Dec.	23.30	20.05	5.97	24.16	20.28	0.95	23.55	18.75	5.05	29.25	26.90	3.66
	Prices and Margins in Steer Calves											
	Choice 900-1,100 lb. slaughter steers, Good and Choice feeder steer calves, 11 months feeding 2/											
Jan.	28.06	17.85	12.75	36.70	26.71	17.83	30.81	24.78	5.60	36.80	25.35	13.25
Feb.	26.65	18.87	10.97	32.59	25.21	12.46	26.65	23.55	0.92	35.76	26.50	8.86
Mar.	26.98	20.13	10.98	30.44	25.73	10.32	27.27	26.90	0.02	33.79	27.25	7.79
Apr.	25.87	20.12	9.47	30.90	27.25	9.85	27.06	26.00	-1.19	32.00	27.81	5.94
May	26.04	21.05	9.54	33.08	28.25	11.89	27.12	26.06	-0.68	31.86	28.79	6.50
June	27.46	21.19	11.34	36.74	27.80	15.59	28.15	25.36	-0.29	31.68	29.55	7.80
July	29.79	21.15	14.14	38.88	28.44	18.16	27.63	23.88	-1.62	32.06	30.06	8.16
Aug.	31.74	20.72	15.17	39.78	29.25	18.48	28.29	23.90	0.39	31.58	31.73	7.49
Sept.	32.83	21.30	15.70	39.15	27.90	18.12	31.55	24.09	5.20	32.21	32.52	7.71
Oct.	33.13	21.03	16.65	37.95	26.35	16.20	34.52	24.50	7.52	32.34	31.88	8.12
Nov.	33.70	21.75	16.36	37.21	27.00	13.02	36.27	24.22	9.61	33.59	34.52	9.09
Dec.	35.64	24.19	17.79	34.12	26.66	7.41	37.49	24.50	12.71	36.45	33.88	11.10
	Good 900-1,100 lb. slaughter steers, Good and Choice feeder steer calves, 8 months feeding 2/											
Jan.	24.17	17.85	7.77	31.15	26.71	10.10	26.10	24.78	-2.15	30.52	25.35	4.46
Feb.	24.31	18.87	7.81	27.66	25.21	6.47	23.34	23.55	-4.46	29.72	26.50	4.36
Mar.	24.57	20.13	8.45	27.07	25.73	5.92	24.47	26.90	-3.97	28.88	27.25	5.00
Apr.	23.67	20.12	8.02	28.08	27.25	7.36	24.71	26.00	-4.54	28.35	27.81	4.45
May	24.45	21.05	7.88	30.78	28.25	9.48	25.16	26.06	-2.74	29.43	28.79	5.34
June	25.67	21.19	8.54	34.80	27.80	13.77	26.39	25.36	0.04	29.91	29.55	5.41
July	27.40	21.15	10.92	35.80	28.44	14.05	25.81	23.88	-1.19	30.49	30.06	6.27
Aug.	27.58	20.72	10.24	35.50	29.25	11.31	26.29	23.90	-0.37	29.98	31.73	5.48
Sept.	28.48	21.30	10.63	33.85	27.90	7.14	27.74	24.09	2.96	30.28	32.52	4.93
Oct.	28.91	21.03	10.04	32.20	26.35	6.99	29.55	24.50	6.00	30.22	31.88	3.72
Nov.	28.87	21.75	8.74	31.50	27.00	5.77	30.07	24.22	3.17	31.49	34.52	4.24
Dec.	30.13	24.19	10.01	29.25	26.66	2.00	31.18	24.50	5.18	33.51	33.68	5.70

1/ Prices of stockers and feeders for months of 1946 used in computing margins are not shown here.
2/ For grades in effect prior to 1951. Grade names for slaughter steers are now approximately one level higher.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration.

PRICES AND FEEDING MARGINS FOR STEERS



*SLAUGHTER PRICES AT CHICAGO, 900-1,100 LB. EXCEPT 700-1,100 FOR MEDIUM. FEEDER PRICES AT KANSAS CITY, 500-800 LB. EXCEPT 500-1,000 FOR MEDIUM

° GRADE AS USED PRIOR TO 1951

† PRICE DIFFERENCE AT END OF 8-MONTH PERIOD FOR CHOICE, 6 MO. FOR GOOD, 4 MO. FOR MEDIUM

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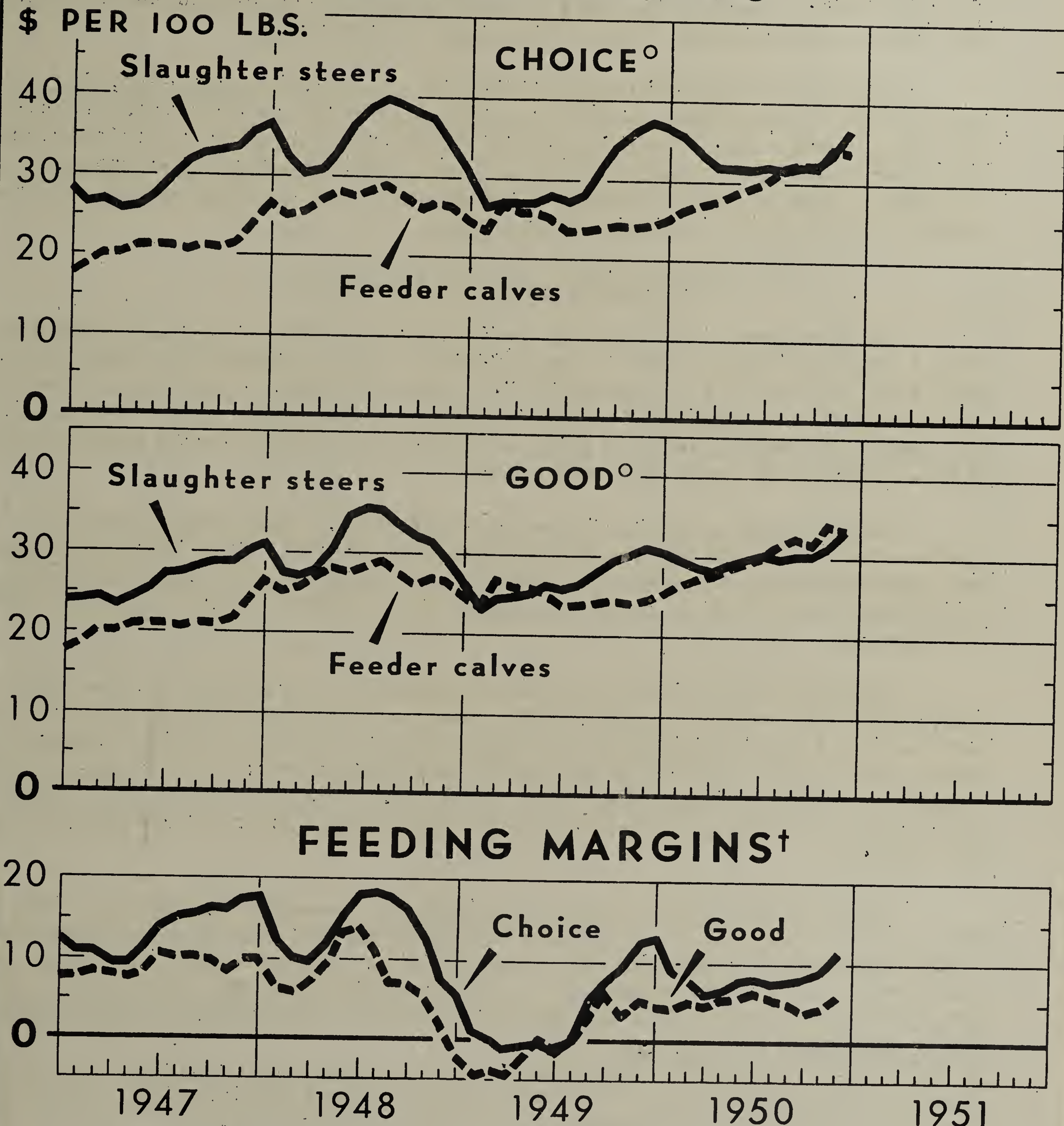
PRICES AND FEEDING MARGINS FOR STEER CALVES

MONTHLY PRICES*



*SLAUGHTER PRICES AT CHICAGO, 900-1100 LB.; GOOD-AND-CHOICE FEEDER STEER CALVES PRICES AT KANSAS CITY

°GRADE AS USED PRIOR TO 1951

†PRICE DIFFERENCE AT END OF 11-MONTH PERIOD FOR CHOICE, 8-MONTH FOR GOOD

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47983-VX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Average 1947-50 margins in feeding steer calves were generally similar to those in feeding steers of the same grade (figure, page 23, and table 8). 3/ The variations in margins were greater, for each grade, in feeding calves than steers. Just as the longer feeding of top than of lower grade steers is a cause for their greater variability of margins, in the same way the longer feeding period for calves is the main reason why their margins vary more than those in feeding steers. The longer feeding of calves also contributed to their comparatively high average margins in the years studied. When prices trend higher as they did during most of 1947-50, there are added gains for holding cattle greater lengths of time. As an average for many years, margins for calf feeding might not compare quite as favorably with those for steers as they did the last four years.

Although no examination of costs of gain will be made here, it is worth noting that calves usually require less feed per 100 pounds of gain than do steers. Also, feeding either calves or steers to top finish requires more feed relative to gain than does feeding to lower slaughter grade. Thus at least a part of the differences in average margins between top and lower grades is offset by differences in costs.

Seasonality in Feeding Margins

As an average for the four years 1947-50, price margins in feeding steers or steer calves were largest for the Choice grades when the fed cattle were sold in the fall or early winter; for Good grade, when sales were made in the summer or early fall; and for Medium grade, when sales were made in the spring or early summer. Average margins by months varied most for the Choice grade, and least for Good grade.

These comparisons are from data in table 7, which summarizes by grades and months the more detailed data in table 6. Like all other data and observations presented here, they apply to cattle fed the feeding period specified and sold at a slaughter grade comparable to their original grade as feeders.

Seasonal high points in cattle prices are determined by two main tendencies that appear in nearly all years -- a spring demand for stockers and feeders to go on grass that brings peak prices for not only stocker and feeder cattle but also lower grades of slaughter cattle; and a demand for slaughter cattle in late summer or early fall, when the total meat supply is small, that results in seasonally high prices for Good and for Choice slaughter grades.

These normal trends are only partially revealed in data for 1947-50, being partly obscured by gradual uptrends in prices and by short-term fluctuations that would disappear in averages for a greater number of years. Yet there was enough correspondence to normal trends that the seasonality in margins during those years was fairly consistent with normal experiences.
(Text concluded on page 28.)

3/ The slightly higher average margin for feeding Choice calves than Choice steers, and smaller margin for Good calves than steers, largely arises from use of a single price quotation for calves of both grades.

Table 7.- 1947-50 average price of slaughter steers and stockers and feeders and lagged margin for feeding yearling steers and steer calves, by grades, by months

Month	Averages for feeding yearling steers								
	Choice grade 1/			Good grade 1/			Medium grade 1/		
	Price per 100 pounds		Margin, price of slaughter steers less feeders 8 months earlier	Price per 100 pounds		Margin, price of slaughter steers less feeders 6 months earlier	Price per 100 pounds		Margin, price of slaughter steers less feeders 4 months earlier
	900-1,100 pound slaughter steers, Chicago	500-800 pound feeder steers, Kansas City		900-1,100 pound slaughter steers, Chicago	500-800 pound feeder steers, Kansas City		700-1,100 pound slaughter steers, Chicago	500-1,000 pound feeder steers, Kansas City	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Jan.	33.09	23.92	9.51	27.98	21.42	6.79	22.69	18.57	4.54
Feb.	30.41	23.58	6.91	26.26	21.35	5.18	22.09	18.43	4.44
Mar.	29.62	25.12	6.43	26.25	22.98	5.19	22.95	20.12	5.19
Apr.	28.96	25.45	5.64	26.20	23.16	5.55	23.18	20.49	4.84
May	29.52	26.71	6.20	27.46	24.47	6.72	24.74	21.58	6.17
June	31.01	26.76	7.69	29.19	24.53	7.90	25.84	21.42	7.41
July	32.09	26.56	8.90	29.88	24.47	8.45	25.49	21.30	5.37
Aug.	32.85	26.70	9.20	29.84	24.46	8.48	24.52	21.16	4.04
Sept.	33.94	26.72	10.02	30.09	24.31	7.11	24.44	21.06	2.86
Oct.	34.48	26.38	10.90	30.22	23.62	7.06	24.31	20.34	2.90
Nov.	35.19	26.69	10.07	30.48	24.16	6.01	24.77	20.88	3.47
Dec.	35.92	27.16	10.48	31.02	24.70	6.48	25.06	21.50	3.91

Month	Averages for feeding steer calves					
	Choice grade			Good grade		
	Price per 100 pounds		Margin, price of slaughter steers less feeders 11 months earlier	Price per 100 pounds		Margin, price of slaughter steers less feeders 8 months earlier
	900-1,100 pound slaughter steers, Chicago	Good and Choice feeder steer calves, Kansas City		900-1,100 pound slaughter steers, Chicago	Good and Choice feeder steer calves, Kansas City	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Jan.	33.09	23.67	12.36	27.98	23.67	5.04
Feb.	30.41	23.53	8.30	26.26	23.53	3.54
Mar.	29.62	25.00	7.28	26.25	25.00	3.85
Apr.	28.96	25.30	6.02	26.20	25.30	3.82
May	29.52	26.04	6.81	27.46	26.04	4.99
June	31.01	25.98	8.61	29.19	25.98	6.94
July	32.09	25.88	9.71	29.88	25.88	7.51
Aug.	32.85	26.40	10.38	29.84	26.40	6.66
Sept.	33.94	26.45	11.68	30.09	26.45	6.41
Oct.	34.48	25.94	12.12	30.22	25.94	6.69
Nov.	35.19	26.87	12.02	30.48	26.87	5.48
Dec.	35.92	27.31	12.25	31.02	27.31	5.72

1/ For grades in effect prior to 1951. Grade names for slaughter steers are now approximately one level higher.
Computed from table 6.

Table 8.- Average price margins in feeding steers and steer calves of various grades. and range and average variation in margin, for monthly data, 1947-50 1/

Item	Feeding yearling steers			Feeding steer calves	
	Choice feeder steers fed 8 months to Choice slaughter steers 2/	Good feeder steers fed 6 months to Good slaughter steers 2/	Medium feeder steers fed 4 months to Medium slaughter steers 2/	Good and Choice feeder steer calves fed 11 months to Choice slaughter steers 2/	Good and Choice feeder steer calves fed 8 months to Good slaughter steers 2/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Average margin, per 100 pounds	8.49	6.74	4.59	9.80	5.56
Range in margin, per 100 pounds	-2.74 to 14.78	-3.75 to 12.61	-0.39 to 10.12	-1.62 to 18.48	-4.54 to 14.05
Average variation in margin, per 100 pounds 3/	3.44	2.61	1.88	4.41	3.37

1/ Data for prices of feeders which enter into margins begin in 1946. For weight classes of steers and original prices and margins, see table 7.

2/ For grades in effect prior to 1951. Grade names for slaughter steers are now approximately one level higher.

3/ Average departure of monthly margins from the 48-month average margin shown in first column. Computed from table 6.

Computed from table 7.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Dec. 1949	Jan.-Dec. 1950	1949 Dec.	1950 Nov.	1950 Dec.
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per					
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	28.65	32.43	37.77	33.10	35.78
Good	do.	26.07	29.68	29.91	31.24	32.98
Medium	do.	23.17	26.08	24.50	28.15	29.61
Common	do.	19.77	22.86	19.23	23.90	25.24
All grades	do.	25.80	29.35	26.47	31.41	33.03
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.23	27.88	24.17	30.06	31.32
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.41	27.98	25.11	30.47	31.61
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	18.79	21.85	17.30	22.88	22.98
Common	do.	2/15.41	19.03	2/14.16	20.46	20.88
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/14.38	16.48	3/13.22	17.82	18.42
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.64	31.08	27.72	32.30	32.68
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	21.34	26.67	21.44	28.46	29.45
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	19.80	23.12	19.00	25.00	25.40
Veal calves	do.	22.70	26.27	22.00	28.20	28.90
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	19.50	18.91	16.10	18.23	19.09
180-200 pounds	do.	19.88	19.46	16.12	18.47	19.32
200-220 pounds	do.	19.94	19.59	15.97	18.42	19.30
220-240 pounds	do.	19.77	19.51	15.60	18.33	19.17
240-270 pounds	do.	19.41	19.25	15.17	18.23	18.93
270-300 pounds	do.	18.87	18.84	14.82	18.16	18.71
All weights	do.	18.62	18.39	15.38	18.21	18.88
Seven markets 4/	do.	18.60	18.42	15.21	18.05	18.81
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.67	17.72	12.72	17.08	16.77
Price received by farmers	do.	18.10	18.22	14.80	17.80	17.70
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.2	12.4	11.9	11.5	11.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.7	13.7	13.1	13.0	12.2
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	10.83	12.67	11.20	15.47	16.24
Price received by farmers	do.	9.29	11.33	9.20	13.20	13.70
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	25.45	27.30	21.91	29.41	31.37
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	6/23.06	7/27.52	22.88	29.22	30.77
Price received by farmers	do.	22.40	24.69	21.00	26.70	27.40
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers						
(1910-14=100)		311	340	280	357	360
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	42.66	47.09	45.02	50.32	53.30
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	49.64	8/52.29	44.40	52.64	52.85
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.96	20.54	16.88	19.68	21.33
Average per 100 pounds	do.	28.78	28.20	23.17	27.02	29.28
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	24.61	23.83	20.36	23.18	24.64
Average per 100 pounds	do.	34.51	33.41	28.55	32.50	34.55
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Good grade	per pound	66.8	73.5	68.6	76.4	78.8
Lamb	do.	67.4	69.6	64.0	71.2	73.6
Pork, including lard	do.	41.1	40.6	35.9	41.2	41.6
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		221.8	236.6	206.5	240.5	251.9
Retail (1935-39=100)		229.3	241.9	220.0	247.7	252.6

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Cutter and Common.
3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
6/ Average of prices for five months, August, September, October, November and December.
7/ Average of prices for January, February, March, August, September, October, November and December.
8/ Prices of 45-50 pound lamb carcass in February, March and April.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Dec. 1949	Jan.-Dec. 1950	1949 Dec.	1950 Nov.	1950 Dec.	1951 Jan.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		139	142	154	165	160	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States							
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	3,258	3,140	198	483	251	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,518	2,915	71	238	252	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	13,222	13,103	1,064	1,151	1,110	
Calves	do.	6,449	5,850	511	505	445	
Sheep and lambs	do.	12,136	11,739	1,058	969	918	
Hogs	do.	53,032	56,964	6,477	6,144	6,777	
Percentage sows	Percent	15	15	11	9	9	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	976	989	984	998	1,017	
Calves	do.	209	206	218	214	200	
Sheep and lambs	do.	94	96	98	95	97	
Hogs	do.	248	244	243	237	245	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	532	541	525	534	546	
Veal, per head	do.	116	115	119	117	109	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	44	46	46	45	46	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	137	136	134	137	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	56	
Lard, per head	do.	36	35	36	33	36	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	14	15	14	15	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	6,998	7,051	556	611	603	
Veal	do.	746	667	60	58	48	
Lamb and mutton	do.	536	534	49	43	42	
Pork 2/	do.	7,352	7,788	881	821	924	
Lard	do.	1,923	2,009	232	201	242	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	1,000 head	18,013	17,882	1,428	1,555	1,481	
Calves	do.	10,828	9,963	838	843	744	
Sheep and lambs	do.	13,377	12,851	1,152	1,058	990	
Hogs	do.	63,744	68,446	7,600	7,246	7,951	
Total production							
Beef	Million pounds	9,142	9,239	717	793	774	
Veal	do.	1,240	1,138	97	98	82	
Lamb and mutton	do.	587	582	53	47	45	
Pork 2/	do.	8,745	9,260	1,023	966	1,076	
Lard	do.	2,170	2,290	260	227	269	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	91	95	113	145
Veal	do.	---	---	12	9	11	14
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	11	8	9	11
Pork	do.	---	---	297	220	326	518
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	493	405	545	791

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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Wide feeding margins for Choice cattle sold in the fall or early winter after an 8 or 11 month feeding period are a combined result of feeder purchases made before the spring advance in their prices, and sales made before the high price season for slaughter steers ends. The widest feeding margins for Good grade cattle come somewhat earlier because a shorter feeding period follows about the same low-price purchase dates. Medium grade feeder steers fed only four months to Medium slaughter steers bring their widest margin when purchases are made in the winter, at prices not far above their seasonal low, and sales are timed for their seasonal high in early summer. 4/

One caution in use of prices in tables 6 and 7 is that the low February prices are the result of price breaks in that month of two years. Averages for more than four years would show relatively higher prices for February than those presented here.

4/ This timing, though describing the widest margins, is not suggested as always the best for feeders to follow. Feeders have to consider the management of their entire farm in deciding how best to fit in their cattle operations. Furthermore, normal seasonal price relationships do not hold true every year. Some feeders do best by carrying out the same feeding plan year after year, but others do well by adjusting to the special circumstances of each year.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

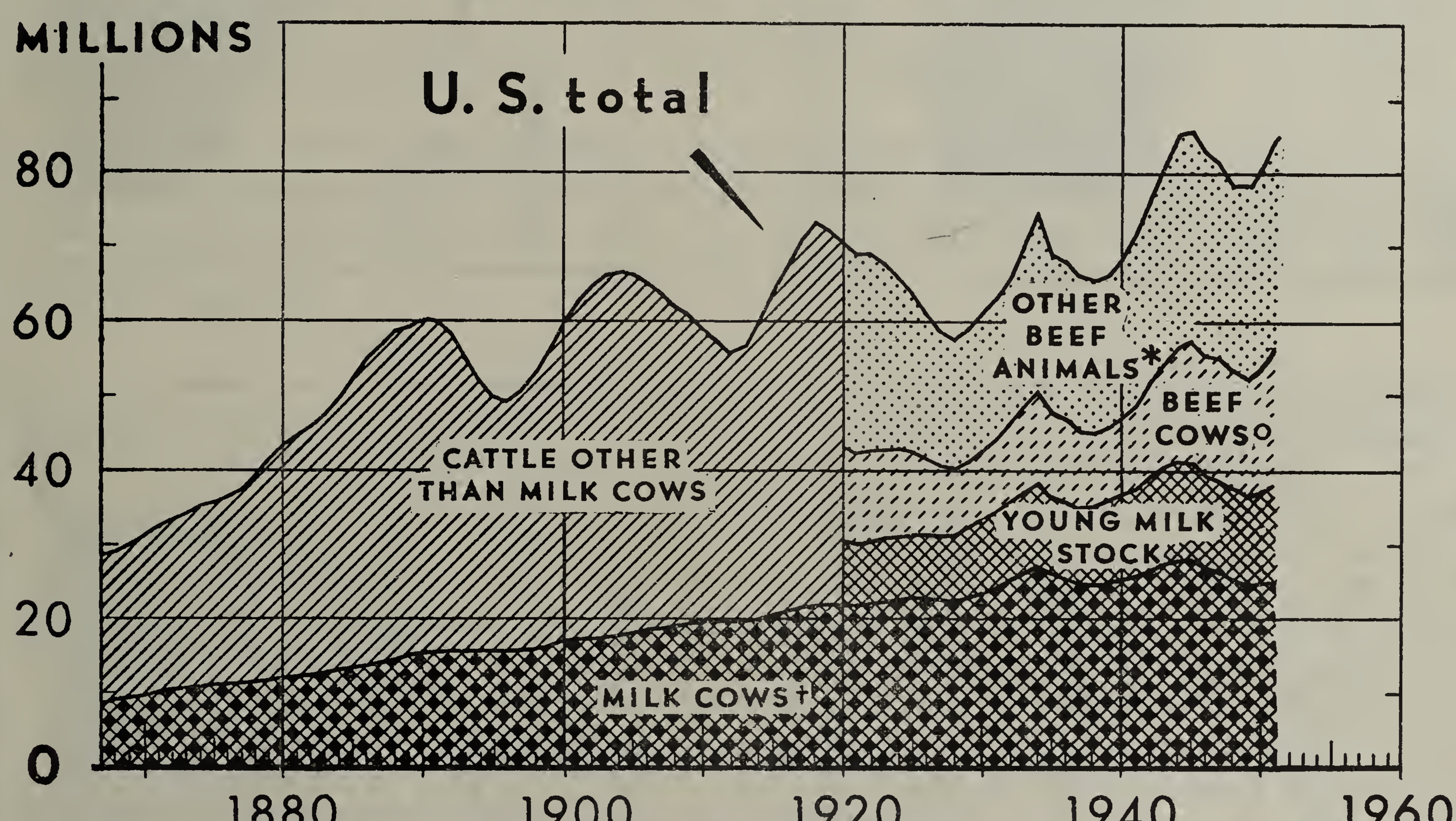
FOR RELEASE MAR. 14, A. M.

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-48 BAE FEBRUARY 1951

In this issue:
Statistical Appendix

CATTLE ON FARMS JAN. 1, by CLASSES



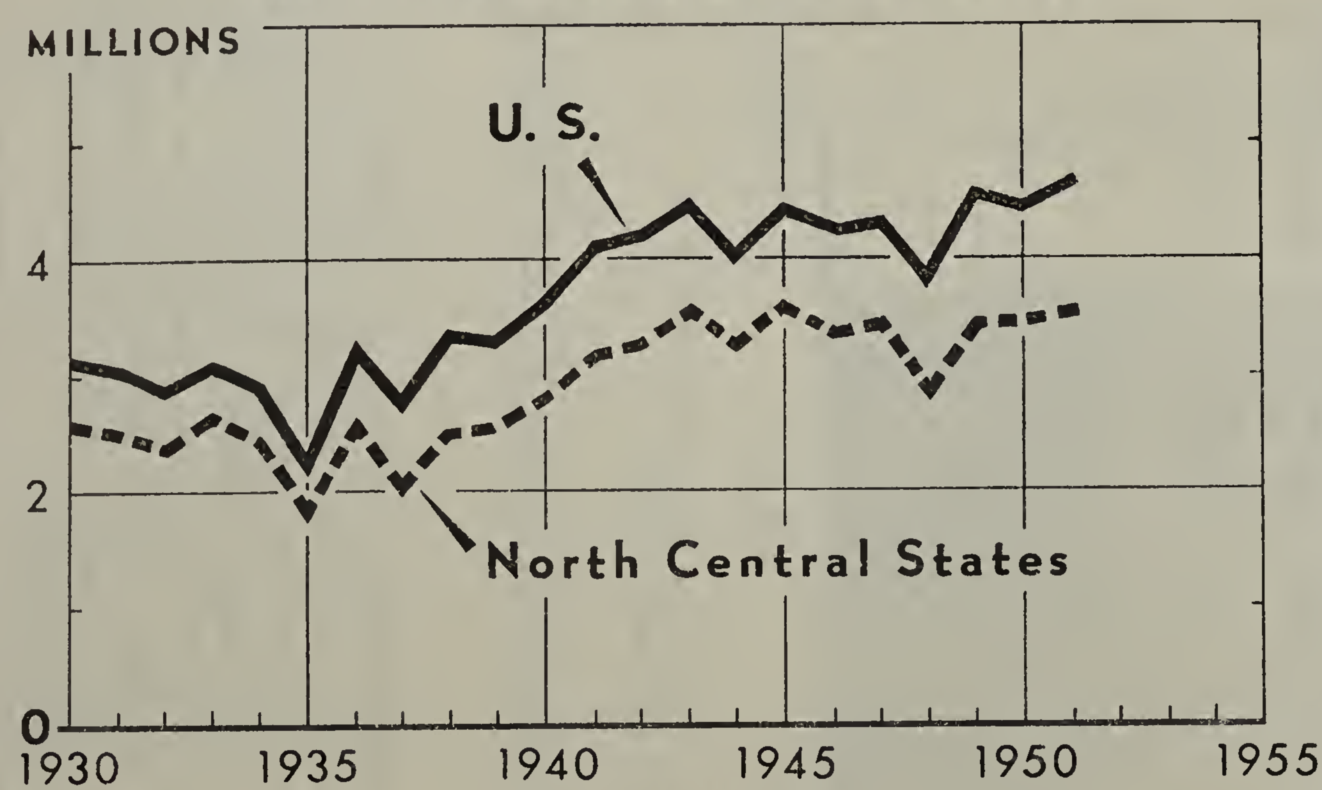
*HEIFERS & CALVES NOT FOR MILK, AND ALL STEERS & BULLS °2 YRS. & OLDER NOT FOR MILK
†COWS & HEIFERS 2 YRS. & OLDER FOR MILK DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47147A-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Cattle numbers on farms were increased 4 million head in 1950. This gain, the largest since an uptrend began in 1948, brought the January 1951 inventory to 84.2 million, only 1.4 million short of the January 1945 record. Beef cow numbers rose 10 percent last year to a new high, but milk cow numbers did not change. Numbers of beef and dairy young stock were up substantially. Cattle on feed this January were a record 4.7 millions.

Larger numbers of hogs this January than last reflect the larger pig crops of 1950. Sheep and lamb numbers increased three-fourths million last year, marking the end of a decline that began in 1942 and lasted 8 years. Ewe lambs alone jumped one-half million or 14 percent.

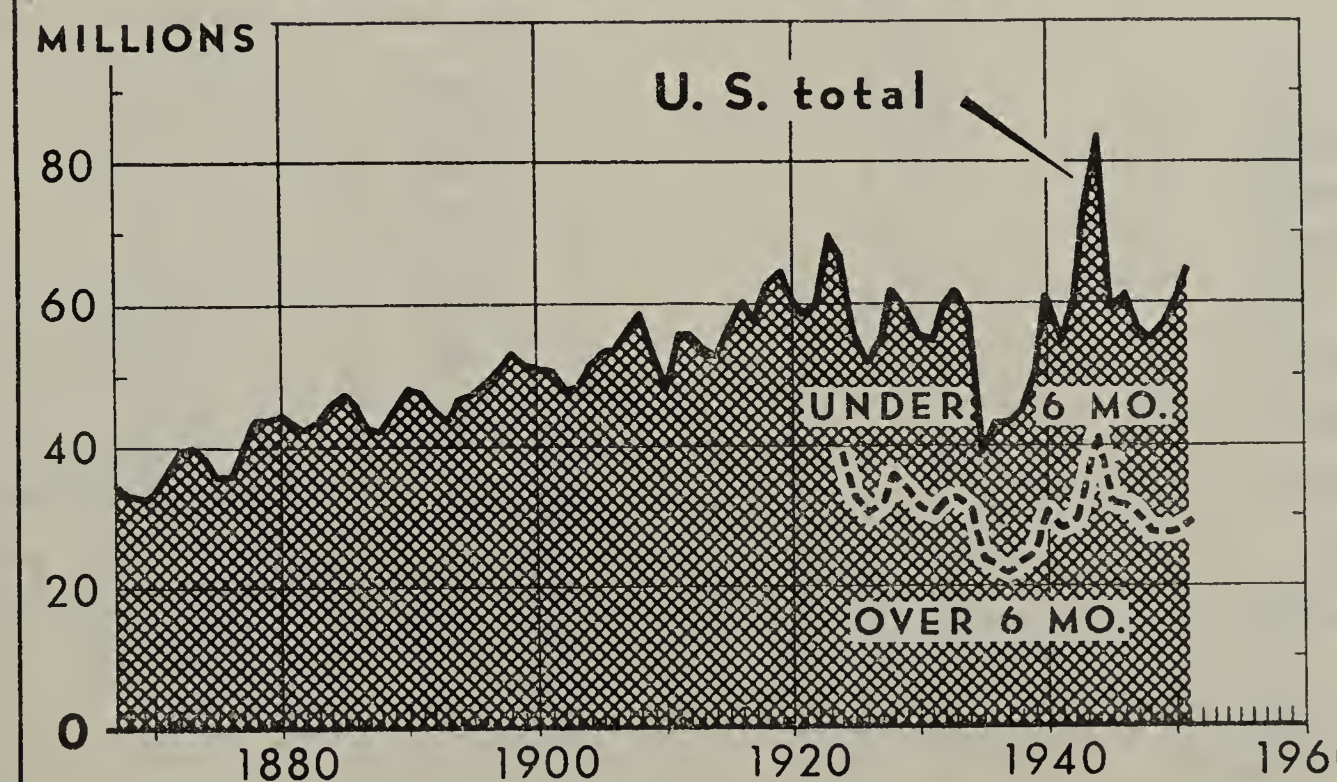
CATTLE ON FEED JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46175-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

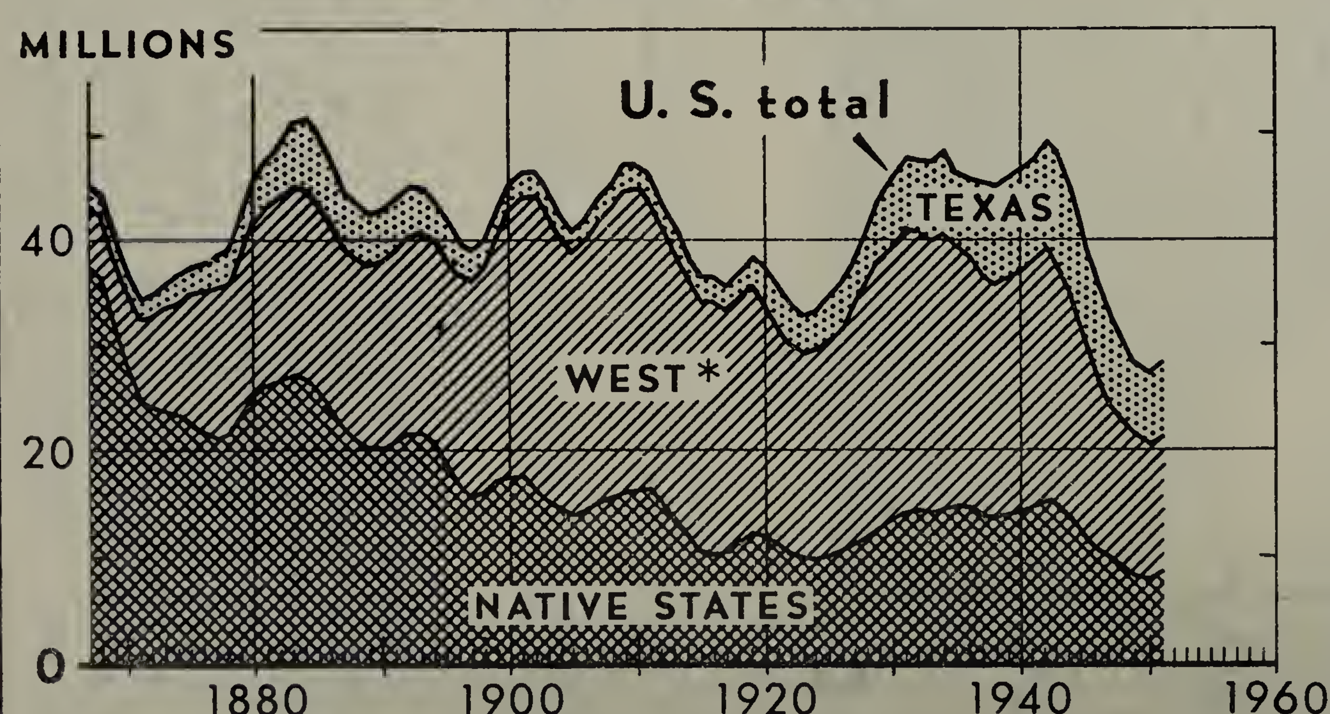
HOGS ON FARMS JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45116-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

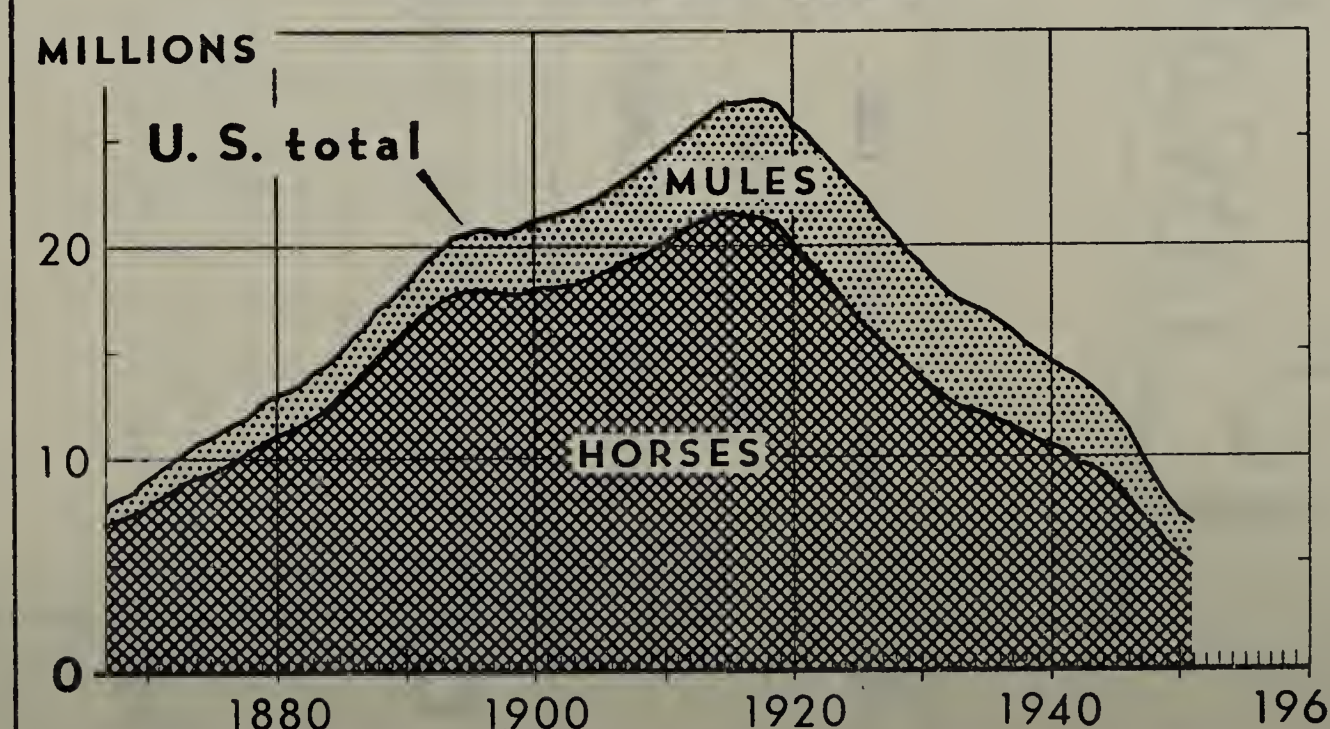
STOCK SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FARMS JAN. 1



* 11 WESTERN STATES AND OKLAHOMA DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47391-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

HORSES AND MULES ON FARMS JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45117-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, February 27, 1951

SUMMARY

On February 9 a slaughter control and quota system was established by the Office of Price Stabilization. Until April 1 no one except farmers may slaughter meat animals unless he was in the slaughtering business between January 1950 and the date of the order. By March 15 all slaughterers except farm slaughterers must register with OPS. Except for farmers, after April 1 only registered slaughterers can slaughter livestock, and their kill will be regulated in accordance with their volume of operations during the 1950 base period. Farmers who sell meat are not permitted to increase their sales. But farmers, as defined in the order, who slaughter their own livestock only for their own consumption are not subject to control.

All meats were placed under price controls on January 26. Ceilings on meats are the highest prices of the period from December 19 to January 25. Sales of meat by farmers, within specified limits, are not under control. Prices of live animals were not put under control.

Meat production to date this year has totaled larger than a year earlier. The increase was substantial in January, but there was little change from last year in February. Hog slaughter was especially large in the first few weeks of the year, then declined sharply as the supply of old-crop hogs neared its end.

Substantially increased numbers of meat animals reported on farms and ranches January 1 strengthen prospects for a gradual increase in meat production, if feed supplies and other conditions continue favorable. The 84.2 million cattle and calves on hand January 1 were 5 percent more than the previous January and were only 1.4 million short of the all-time high in 1945. For dairy cattle the increase last year was 2 percent, and was mostly in heifer calves; for beef cattle it was 8 percent, and was mostly in beef cows and calves. A 2 percent gain in numbers of sheep and lambs was notable because it was the first increase since an eight-year decline began in 1942. The 31.5 million sheep and lambs on hand this January were still only a little more than half their 1942 high of 56.2 million. Numbers of hogs were 7 percent larger this January than last.

Particularly meaningful to the longer outlook are the big increases in numbers of breeding stock, and especially of young breeding stock. Numbers of cows for milk did not change much but beef cows were up 10 percent. Numbers of heifers and heifer calves for milk gained 5 percent, and beef heifers 6 percent. In the stock sheep inventory, numbers of yearling and older ewes rose 1 1/2 percent, and ewe lambs, 14 percent. And numbers of sows and gilts were 4 percent larger this January.

In late February, market prices of most meat animals and wholesale meats receded after a steady advance that had begun two months or more earlier. Percentage increases in early February, when meat prices were first under control, averaged somewhat greater for live animals than for wholesale products. By the end of February the percentage changes had become about the same for live animals as for wholesale meats.

OPS Establishes Slaughter Quotas

On February 9 the Office of Price Stabilization by Distribution Order 1 placed all livestock slaughter under a quota system. The order was declared to be "a necessary first step" to prevent black marketing of meat and insure normal distribution by marketing channels and consuming areas. Until April 1 no one may slaughter cattle, hogs, sheep or lambs unless he was in the slaughtering business between January 1950 and the date of the order. All slaughterers, except farm slaughterers, must register with OPS by March 15. No unregistered slaughterer except farmers can legally slaughter livestock after April 1. Beginning on that date the volume slaughtered by each registered slaughterer will be regulated by quotas, determined on the basis of 1950 operations. The system is intended to let slaughterers kill only the same percentage of total slaughter as they did in the base period.

Farmers who "transferred" less than 6,000 pounds of meat in 1950 resulting from slaughter on their farms are defined as "Class 3 slaughterers" and are subject to two principal limitations: (1) they may not transfer meat to any person for resale unless they transferred meat to that person in 1950; (2) they may not transfer in any six-months period beginning March 1 and September 1, more meat in total than in the same six months of 1949-50 and in no event more than 3,000 pounds. Every carcass or wholesale cut must be properly tagged as "Class 3 slaughter" and records must be kept of all such transactions.

"Transfer" is a term covering selling, giving or exchanging meat or placing it in warehouse or locker storage.

A farmer who does not sell meat may slaughter livestock or have it slaughtered for his home consumption, if he is a resident operator of a farm on which he resides for at least six months a year, or if the livestock were raised on his farm or had been on the farm 90 days immediately before slaughter. However, if he has the livestock custom slaughtered for him, he must certify his eligibility for the service; and the slaughterer is subject to the slaughtering quotas noted above.

The OPS order on slaughter control followed action by the Secretary of Agriculture on January 26 delegating authority "to exercise the function to allocate meat" previously vested in him. The authority was delegated to the Economic Stabilization Administrator and then by him to the Director of Price Stabilization.

Price Freeze Held Applying To All Meats

The order providing for slaughter quotas followed the Economic Stabilization Agency's General Ceiling Price Regulation of January 26 which froze wholesale and retail prices of many commodities including meats. Ceilings on meat are the highest prices of the period from December 19 to January 25.

All dealers, including wholesale and retail meat dealers, were required to file with the Economic Stabilization Agency by March 1, 1951 a record of prices charged during the base period.

Prices of live animals were not placed under controls. However, officials of the Office of Price Stabilization have indicated that the Office intends to set ceilings on live animals.

In general, the sale of meat produced from farm slaughter is excluded from price controls. Specifically, price ceilings do not apply to "any commodity grown and processed on the farm when sold by the farmer if the total of such sales and deliveries do not exceed $200.00 in any one calendar month".

Under terms of the Defense Production Act of 1950, a ceiling on a commodity derived from a farm product must be high enough to reflect the higher of two prices for the farm product: parity, or the highest price of the May 24-June 24 period last year, as adjusted in both cases for grade, season and location. On January 15, prices received by farmers for all meat animals except hogs were above the minimum ceiling level without adjustments for grade, season or location (table 1). On February 15, prices of all species of meat animals were above the unadjusted minimum ceilings.

In actions subsequent to the original price order, the Production and Marketing Administration submitted factors for seasonal correction of hog prices to the Office of Price Stabilization, and that Office issued a supplementary order confirming its original determination that all meat animals were above minimum ceilings on January 25 and declaring that no price increases for meats were justified.

Table 1.- Prices received per 100 pounds by farmers for meat animals January 15 and February 15, 1951, compared with parity prices and the farm price equivalent of the highest May 24-June 24, 1950 prices

Class of meat animals	Price received by farmers		Effective parity price		Highest market price May 24-June 24 adjusted to farm price basis
	January 15	February 15	January 15	February 15	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Beef cattle	27.00	29.00	19.10	19.40	23.80
Veal calves	30.80	33.30	21.50	21.80	28.30
Sheep	15.20	17.70	10.80	10.90	12.00
Lambs	30.00	33.30	21.00	21.30	26.40
Hogs	20.00	22.00	20.60	20.90	19.70

None of these prices contains any adjustment for grade, location or seasonal variation.

Special Pricing Provision
On Certain Dressed Hogs

Amendment Number 1 to the General Ceiling Price Regulation provides a special pricing provision for hog slaughterers who "sold and delivered dressed hogs during the base period at a price figured by using a percentage of the live hog price". Those slaughterers may continue to price their dressed hogs in that way. The multiplier for the calculation is not to change from the highest that was used for substantial poundage in the base period. Prices at retail are not to reflect any increase in wholesale prices of pork resulting from this provision.

The amendment was intended to prevent shifts by packers from their normal practices of dressing versus shipping live hogs.

Hide Prices Held At
November Levels

Effective January 29 prices of domestic cattle hides, kip and calfskins were rolled back to the highest prices of sales and deliveries during the period November 1 to 30. The order was Economic Stabilization Authority Order Number 2. It was stated that the rollback was designed as a temporary freeze of prices until a tailored regulation can be worked out.

On February 5 the National Production Authority issued an order deferring sale and delivery of February production of cattle hides, kip and calfskins until March 15 or earlier if a distribution program is established before that date. Tanners' deliveries have been covered by an allocation order since January 19.

Commercial Meat Production
Up 2 1/2 Percent in 1950

Production of meat in 1950 from commercial slaughter, which is all slaughter except that on farms, totaled 20.2 billion pounds. This was an increase of 2 1/2 percent from 1949.

Production of pork was up 6 percent last year, and beef 1 percent. About as much lamb and mutton was produced last year as the year before, but less veal. (See table 2.)

The increase in beef production resulted from a 2 percent heavier average dressed weight per head, which more than offset a reduction of 1 percent in number of cattle slaughtered. The 517 pound dressed weight per head last year was the heaviest average in 20 years of record on commercial slaughter. Under stimulus of high prices for cattle and comparatively lower prices for feed, an unusually large part of the cattle slaughtered last year were grain fed, and all classes were heavy when marketed (table 3).

Lambs also were marketed at heavier average weights and finish last year. The average dressed weight of commercial sheep and lamb slaughter also was heavier than in any of the previous 20 years of record. This was true in spite of a low percentage of mature sheep in the slaughter total. The heavier weights in 1950 than 1949 about counterbalanced the 4 percent drop in number of sheep and lambs slaughtered.

Table 2.- Meat production in commercial establishments, United States, by quarter-year, 1948 to 1950 1/

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
			All meat		
1948	5,002	4,613	4,258	5,430	19,303
1949	5,020	4,537	4,704	5,453	19,714
1950	5,069	4,737	4,764	5,646	20,216
			Beef		
1948	2,245	2,083	2,159	2,279	8,766
1949	2,270	2,233	2,399	2,240	9,142
1950	2,224	2,221	2,414	2,380	9,239
			Veal		
1948	292	316	364	351	1,323
1949	271	286	347	336	1,240
1950	263	278	312	285	1,138
			Lamb and mutton		
1948	185	158	182	203	728
1949	158	114	154	161	587
1950	151	139	149	143	582
			Pork excluding lard		
1948	2,280	2,056	1,553	2,597	8,486
1949	2,321	1,904	1,804	2,716	8,745
1950	2,431	2,099	1,889	2,838	9,257

1/ Total of production in Federally inspected and in all other commercial establishments.

Table 3.- Number of livestock slaughtered, average weights, and meat produced in commercial establishments, 1949 and 1950 1/

Item	Number slaughtered	Live weight		Dressed weight		
		Per head	Total	Per head	Per 100 pounds live weight	Total production
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million pounds
Cattle						
1949	18,013	942	16,970	508	53.9	9,142
1950	17,882	956	17,092	517	54.1	9,239
Percent change	-1.1	+1.5	+0.7	+1.8	+0.4	+1.1
Calves						
1949	10,828	207	2,241	115	55.3	1,240
1950	9,963	206	2,051	114	55.5	1,138
Percent change	-8.0	-0.5	-8.5	-0.9	+0.4	-8.2
Sheep and lambs						
1949	13,377	94	1,251	43.9	46.9	587
1950	12,851	95	1,227	45.3	47.4	582
Percent change	-3.9	+1.1	-1.9	+3.2	+1.1	-0.9
Hogs						
1949	63,744	243	15,472	137.2	56.5	8,745
1950	68,446	240	16,430	135.3	56.4	9,257
Percent change	+7.4	-1.2	+6.2	-1.4	-0.2	+5.9

1/ Total for Federally inspected and all other commercial establishments.

The 68.4 million hogs slaughtered in commercial establishments in 1950 were 7 1/2 percent more than the 63.7 million in 1949. Weights were down slightly, as hogs were marketed lighter in the first half of 1950 than of 1949. Beginning in September, weights of hogs were equal to or a little above a year earlier.

Production in 1951 Running Above Last Year; Likely to Continue So

In January approximately 9 percent more meat was produced in commercial establishments than a year earlier. About 12 percent more pork and 8 percent more beef was produced commercially this January than last. In February, both hog and cattle slaughter dropped to below last year, but weights were a little heavier and meat production for the month may have been about the same as last February.

Meat production is expected to total moderately larger in 1951 than in 1950. In rate of increase, pork will lead, but beef supplies should also be somewhat larger. There will probably be about as much veal as last year but less lamb and mutton.

Prices Decline After Mid-February

Market prices of all classes of meat animals advanced through mid-February, continuing uptrends that had begun in early fall for most cattle and for sheep and lambs, and about December 1 for hogs. Prices of cattle, sheep and lambs at mid-February were record or near-record high, but prices of hogs were still considerably short of their 1948 peak. Later in February prices receded from their mid-month peak.

Just after the last full week in January, which was the last week of uncontrolled meat prices, prices of hogs and lambs rose faster than prices of pork products and lamb carcasses at wholesale, indicating some narrowing of processors' margins. By the last week in February, however, the relationship between hog and pork prices had readjusted, and only live lambs tended to outrun the wholesale meats. These data are from Chicago quotations. (Table 4.)

Cold Storage Holdings Increase Seasonally To High Level

A net into-storage movement of 188 million pounds of meat during January was larger than usual for that month. The movement raised total holdings of meat in cold storage on February 1 to 957 million pounds. Almost all classes of meat in storage increased more in January than in the same month a year ago. The increase of 166 million pounds in pork accounted for most of the gain and brought total pork holdings to 665.6 million pounds, the highest for any February 1 since 1941.

Table 4.- Prices of selected classes of meat animals and of meat at wholesale, Chicago, by weeks, week ended December 23, 1950 to date

Week ended	Live animals, per 100 pounds: Slaughter steers: Choice grade 1/	Live animals, per 100 pounds: Slaughter steers: Utility grade 2/	Live animals, per 100 pounds: Slaughter lambs, Good and Choice, wooled	Live animals, per 100 pounds: Barrows and gilts, all weights	Wholesale meats, per 100 pounds: Beef steer carcass, 500-600 lb. Choice, per 100 lb. 1/	Wholesale meats, per 100 pounds: Lamb carcass 40-45 lb. Good, per 100 lb.	Wholesale meats, per 100 pounds: Hog products, fresh basis 3/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
1950							
December 23	32.89	25.10	31.48	19.46	53.50	52.90	29.99
30	33.88	25.81	32.02	20.43	54.17	52.50	31.13
1951							
January 6	33.95	26.15	32.86	20.49	54.69	53.00	30.72
13	34.44	25.83	33.92	20.64	54.50	54.30	30.86
20	34.97	27.49	34.86	20.72	54.50	54.50	31.46
27	34.93	27.73	34.97	20.96	54.40	53.50	31.39
February 3	35.49	28.31	36.75	21.92	54.75	53.75	32.25
10	35.96	28.44	37.80	22.44	56.15	55.80	32.76
17	36.26	28.73	38.70	23.28	56.25	55.70	33.71
24	35.73	28.61	38.56	22.91	55.69	55.50	34.37
Percent increase, January 27-February 24	2.3	3.2	10.3	9.3	2.4	3.7	9.5

1/ Called "Good" in 1950. 2/ Called "Common" in 1950. 3/ Reported value for 72.95 pounds converted to 100 pound basis.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Cattle Numbers Increase in 1950

Cattle numbers have increased rapidly and are now near their all-time high. The gain of 4.1 million head or 5 percent during 1950 was the largest gain since an upturn in 1948. The 84.2 million cattle and calves reported on farms and ranches on January 1, 1951 were only 1.4 million short of the 85.6 million on January 1, 1945.

Beef cattle (cattle "not for milk") increased in number more than dairy cattle (cattle "for milk") last year. For several years there has been a shift in emphasis toward beef cattle production. The 46.5 million beef cattle on farms this January are a record high. The 37.7 million dairy stock are 3.6 million less than their 1944 high.

The number of beef cattle this January includes the largest number ever reported both for cattle on feed and for beef breeding stock. The 4.7 million cattle on feed were 5 percent more than a year earlier. The number of beef cows was up to 18.4 millions, 10 percent more than their previous record on January 1, 1950. Beef cow numbers decreased less, in percentage terms, than any other class of cattle during 1945 through 1947, and then increased rapidly through 1950.

Numbers of dairy cattle have also been climbing, but at a slower rate. Their increase in 1949 was 474,000 and in 1950, 663,000. However, these gains have been almost entirely in numbers of young dairy stock. Milk cows increased only 50,000 in 1949 and not at all last year.

Numbers of young breeding stock this January promise further increases in numbers of both dairy and beef cattle in years ahead. Numbers of heifers and heifer calves for milk increased 5 percent in 1950, and beef heifers and calves increased 9 percent.

In the reported statistics, beef and dairy cattle are classified by the purpose for which they are kept, not by their breeds. Dairy cattle include all cows kept for milk, and heifers and heifer calves to be kept for milk cows. Beef cattle are all other cows, heifers and calves, together with all steers and bulls. (Data on cattle numbers by classes are in appendix, table A-2.)

The South Atlantic and South Central States continue to increase in importance in cattle production. Numbers were up 8 percent this January in each of those regions. For North and South Carolina and Alabama, the increases were 10 percent or more. Much of the increase in the South was in beef cattle, but numbers of cattle for milk were also higher. In the North Central States cattle numbers were expanded 4 percent in 1950, which was twice the 1949 rate of increase. The West also reported a 4 percent increase in cattle on farms in 1950. In 1949, numbers for the West had decreased 2 percent.

Both Numbers on Farms and Numbers Slaughtered Expected To Increase During 1951

There are several indications that cattle numbers will be expanded further during 1951. Supplies of feed grains and hay are adequate for a larger cattle production in 1951, although they could be restrictive in later years. High prices for cattle and improvements in pastures in recent years have improved the competitive position of cattle raising among farm enterprises, particularly in the southern States. However, the need for increased production of almost all major crops may limit forage acreages in the near future.

Cattle numbers have increased enough to provide a larger annual slaug- ter. The 1951 total cattle slaughter will likely be moderately above 1950. It may include somewhat more cows and heifers than in 1950, the percentage o which in total slaughter may exceed slightly the 43.2 percent in 1950 but wi likely remain below the 50 percent in years when cattle herds were being reduced. More fed cattle are expected to be slaughtered in 1951 than last yea Like last year, the peak slaughter of fed cattle will come fairly late -- du ing the fall and early winter -- because the cattle on feed again include ar above average proportion of light weight cattle.

Sheep Numbers Increase; Halt Eight-Year Decline

Sheep and lambs on farms and ranches increased 762,000 head during 1950 to an estimated 31.5 million head on January 1, 1951. This increase i the first reported in eight years, following a decline which carried January 1 inventories from 56.2 million in 1942 to 30.7 million last year.

The increase in sheep and lambs on farms came about from a building up of breeding herds. Stock sheep and lambs on January 1 were up about 1.0 million head from the number a year ago. This gain was composed mainly of 0.6 million more ewe lambs -- a notable 14 percent jump -- and 0.3 million more ewes. On the other hand, sheep and lambs on feed declined 0.2 million to 3.4 million, the smallest number on feed since 1920.

Of the 1950 increase in sheep numbers, nearly half was in Texas and most of the other half was in the native (eastern) sheep States. Although California reported a gain of 3 percent, Montana 7 percent and Utah 4 percent, in the 11 Mountain and Pacific States as a whole there was no increase last year.

It is likely that sheep herds will be expanded further in 1951. Prices for both wool and lamb and mutton are currently very high, and will doubtless continue high during the year. The farm price of wool has doubled within the past year. Market prices for slaughter ewes have almost doubled, and those for slaughter lambs have increased by one-half. These prices put the sheep industry in a more favorable competitive position with the cattle industry.

In spite of the increased number of sheep and lambs on hand this January, prospects are for a somewhat smaller sheep and lamb slaughter in 1951 than in 1950. Because of the few sheep and lambs on feed, slaughter the next few months may hold a little below a year earlier. Slaughter in the second half will depend on decisions of sheepmen to sell ewe lambs or to hold them for their breeding herds. It is possible that so many lambs will be retained as to restrict slaughter to somewhat below last year, and to continue the upward trend in inventory numbers begun last year.

Hog Numbers Increase; Will Result in More Pork

More hogs were on farms in January this year than a year earlier -- 65.0 million head as compared with 60.5 a year ago.

The increase largely reflects the 9 percent larger pig crop last fall than a year earlier, and the greater number of sows kept this winter to farrow spring pigs. In December, farmers intended to keep 4 percent more sows for farrowing this spring than last.

The larger numbers of pigs last fall and this spring will result in a greater production of pork in 1951 than in 1950. Hog slaughter will increase seasonally when volume marketings of fall crop hogs begin in March. From April to August, slaughter will be considerably above a year earlier because of the 9 percent bigger fall pig crop.

Hog prices during this year probably will not be as strong as prices for other meat animals compared with relationships for recent years, but they may be about average relative to feed prices.

Horse and Mule Numbers Continue Downward

The number of horses and mules on farms continued to decline during 1950 and on January 1, 1951 totaled 6,753,000 head. This number is only one-fourth the number reported in the peak year of 1918. Numbers of both horses and mules were reduced most last year in northern States and least in the South and West. It is anticipated that workstock will be replaced still more as a source of farm power during 1951.

Retail Value of Meat Almost Keeps Pace With Incomes in 1950

During the last two-thirds of 1950, retail prices of meat traced a steady upward course broken only by seasonal fluctuations. At year's end, they were considerably higher than a year earlier. Meat prices advanced during the latter part of 1950 primarily because consumers' incomes were rising, while the supply of meat increased only slightly. In the last quarter of 1950 meat consumption per person was only 0.6 pound, or 1.6 percent, larger than in the same quarter of 1949. (See table 5.)

The total retail value of meat consumed, an estimate obtained by multiplying prices per pound by quantity consumed, represented about the same proportion of total consumer incomes in 1950 as in 1949. The index of retail value of meat per person increased from 243 in 1949 to 256 in 1950, or 5.2 percent. The index of disposable incomes per person gained a little more -- 6.1 percent. Since retail value of meat is an approximate guide to expenditures for meat, this means that consumers spent almost the same percentage of their incomes for meat last year as the year before.

In the first quarter of 1950, the retail value of meat fell off relative to incomes. But during the general inflationary surge that began in the spring, the retail value tended to outrun incomes slightly. In the fourth quarter of 1950 the retail value of meat was 13.0 percent higher than in the same quarter of 1949 and incomes were up 11.5 percent. But this difference is small, and on the whole, the retail value or price of meat did not rise disproportionately to incomes. One reason for this is that consumers' anticipatory buying may have been greater for durable goods than for meat, which can be stored only a relatively short time.

Price patterns for meat are not likely to be normal in 1951, because of controls and other special influences. However, some of the factors usually determining price changes can be foreseen. Supplies of meat will be somewhat larger than last year. But rising defense expenditures will bring a further increase in consumer incomes. It is possible that consumers will attempt to increase the percentage of their incomes spent for meat, due to shortages of some consumer goods. This is true despite the longer-run tendency for the percentage expenditure for meat to decline gradually. Whether or not consumers are actually inclined to divert more of their incomes to meat in 1951 could be the most important factor affecting the strength of demand relative to supply, and the degree of upward pressure against ceilings. It seems likely that if consumers were to retain their 1950 pattern of expenditures, the pressure on price controls now in force probably would not be extremely great, and some meats might at some seasons sell at less than ceiling prices. On the other hand, if consumers should prove willing to commit larger proportions of their incomes to meat, demand for meat at ceiling prices might considerably exceed the supply.

Table 5.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, seasonally adjusted, by quarter-year, 1949 and 1950

Quarter-year	Civilian consumption per capita: Actual	Civilian consumption per capita: Seasonally adjusted	Average retail price per pound 1/: Actual 2/	Average retail price per pound 1/: Seasonally adjusted	Index of retail value of civilian consumption per capita seasonally adjusted 2/	Index of disposable personal income per capita seasonally adjusted 3/
	Pounds	Pounds	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent
	All meat					
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	37.1	36.0	---	---	244.0	250
Apr.-June	34.9	37.2	---	---	254.6	246
July-Sept.	34.6	36.9	---	---	250.4	241
Oct.-Dec.	37.3	33.8	---	---	223.4	242
Year	143.9	143.9	---	---	243.1	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	37.3	35.9	---	---	236.2	255
Apr.-June	35.3	37.7	---	---	264.2	252
July-Sept.	34.0	36.4	---	---	270.4	262
Oct.-Dec.	37.9	34.5	---	---	252.4	270
Year	144.5	144.5	---	---	255.8	260
	Beef					
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	16.0	15.8	64.0	65.2	257.0	250
Apr.-June	16.0	17.3	65.7	66.2	286.0	246
July-Sept.	16.4	16.3	68.2	66.4	270.2	241
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	14.1	69.3	69.4	242.8	242
Year	63.5	63.5	66.8	66.8	264.0	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	15.5	15.3	67.2	68.5	261.4	255
Apr.-June	15.7	17.0	71.9	72.4	305.8	252
July-Sept.	15.9	15.9	77.6	75.6	300.5	262
Oct.-Dec.	15.9	14.8	77.2	77.3	285.0	270
Year	63.0	63.0	73.5	73.5	288.2	260
	Pork excluding lard					
1949						
Jan.-Mar.	17.9	16.6	47.0	48.4	236.2	250
Apr.-June	16.1	16.7	47.4	48.2	235.0	246
July-Sept.	14.8	17.4	49.4	47.6	242.5	241
Oct.-Dec.	18.8	16.9	43.9	43.6	215.4	242
Year	67.6	67.6	46.9	46.9	232.3	245
1950						
Jan.-Mar.	18.8	17.4	41.7	42.9	217.6	255
Apr.-June	16.8	17.5	44.8	45.6	234.0	252
July-Sept.	15.0	17.6	51.9	50.1	258.6	262
Oct.-Dec.	19.0	17.1	47.3	47.0	235.3	270
Year	69.6	69.6	46.4	46.4	236.4	260

1/ Not calculated for all meats combined.
2/ Weighted retail prices for all important cuts.
3/ 1935-39=100.

The sizable variation in recent years in the percentage relationship of retail value of meat to disposable incomes is shown in table 6.

Table 6.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by years, 1937-41 average, 1947 to date

Period	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/	Disposable personal income per person	Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
	Cents	Dollars	Dollars	Percent
1937-41 av.	25.7	29.86	568	5.3
1947	56.2	75.34	1,170	6.4
1948	62.6	78.88	1,278	6.2
1949	56.8	70.74	1,249	5.7
1950	59.4	74.43	1,325	5.6

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts.
2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each type of meat consumed per civilian consumer.
Compiled from appendix table A-25.

Changes Proposed for Additional Livestock and Carcass Grades

As a follow-up to the recent changes in Federal grades for slaughter cattle and for beef, changes have been proposed in carcass and slaughter grades for veal and for vealers and calves, and in grades for lamb and mutton and for lambs, yearlings and mature sheep. These proposals are part of the general revision of the grading system to bring Federal grades more in line with current livestock production practices and consumer preferences for meat. Opportunity is given for comment on proposed revisions before they are adopted. Official grades are available as guides in marketing and form the basis for reporting in official news reports.

Proposed changes in grades of veal and calf carcasses are: (1) to combine the present Choice and Prime grades under the name Prime, (2) to rename Good as Choice, (3) to establish a new Good grade which will include meat from the top half of the present Commercial grade, and (4) to continue the remainder of the Commercial grade as Commercial. No change is proposed for present Utility and Cull grades.

The proposed changes in grades of slaughter vealers and calves correspond to those for carcasses. They are to: (1) combine the present Choice and Prime grades under the name Prime, (2) rename Good as Choice, (3) establish a new Good grade from the top half of the animals now included in the Medium grade, (4) rename the remainder of the Medium grade as Commercial, and (5) rename Common as Utility.

Proposed changes in Federal grades of lamb, yearling mutton and mutton carcasses are similar to those suggested for other carcasses in that the two top grades now in use are to be combined as Prime, and Good is to be renamed Choice. However, the present proposal is to rename the top two-thirds of the present Commercial grade as Good, to combine the rest of the Commercial grade with the top two-thirds of the present Utility under the name Utility and to combine the remainder of the present Utility with Cull as Cull.

The contemplated changes for slaughter lambs, yearlings and mature sheep reflect the proposed changes in carcasses. The present Prime and Choice will become Prime, and Good is to be Choice. The top two-thirds of the present Medium will be named Good, and the lower one-third of the present Medium together with the top two-thirds of Common will be the new Utility. The new Cull grade will contain the rest of the present Common as well as meat currently grading Cull.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX

The following tables are a statistical appendix similar to that of the February 1950 issue of this Situation. The only new table is one of receipts of stocker and feeder cattle and calves in eight Corn Belt States. Omissions of tables in last year's appendix are principally those on indexes of seasonal variation and on production and distribution of meat by quarters, all of which are subject to revision and are intended to be published by May of this year. Present estimates of average consumption of meat per person by quarters in 1950 may be found in text table 5. The complete preliminary data and quarterly production and distribution of meat for 1950 may be obtained on request to the editor, The Livestock and Meat Situation, BAE.

The two pages of statistics in each issue of this Situation, together with occasional additions or revisions given in special sections of the text, can be used to keep this appendix to date.

Tables of this appendix having no credit line contain data from the Crop Reporting Board, the Division of Livestock and Poultry Statistics, or the Division of Statistical and Historical Research of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Several tables, as credited, were taken or compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration. Indexes of wholesale and retail prices of meat are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, and population and certain foreign trade data are from the Bureau of the Census.

More complete compilations of statistics of livestock and meats may be obtained by referring to Agricultural Statistics, Livestock Market News Statistics and Related Data (PMA), or annual issues of Crops and Markets (BAE), and to the regularly scheduled livestock reports released during the year by the BAE.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	1950 Year total or average	1950 January	1950 December	1951 January	1951 February
Cattle and calves	Dollars per					
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	100 pounds					
Chicago, Prime	do.	32.43	36.80	35.78	38.38	
Choice	do.	29.68	28.14	32.98	34.77	
Good	do.	) 26.08	24.13	29.61	(31.88	
Commercial	do.	)			(29.47	
Utility	do.	22.86	20.44	25.24	27.32	
All grades	do.	29.35	25.98	33.03	34.10	
Omaha, all grades	do.	27.88	24.47	31.32	32.75	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	27.98	24.55	31.61	32.81	
Cows, Chicago 2/						
Commercial	do.	21.58	17.27	22.73	24.64	
Utility	do.	19.03	15.50	20.88	23.03	
Canner and Cutter	do.	16.48	13.98	18.42	20.17	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	31.08	30.66	32.68	36.39	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	26.67	22.94	29.45	31.88	
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	23.12	19.40	25.40	27.00	29.00
Veal calves	do.	26.27	23.30	28.90	30.80	33.30
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	18.91	16.51	19.09	20.86	
180-200 pounds	do.	19.46	16.57	19.32	21.59	
200-220 pounds	do.	19.59	16.40	19.30	21.55	
220-240 pounds	do.	19.51	15.94	19.17	21.31	
240-270 pounds	do.	19.25	15.34	18.93	20.87	
270-300 pounds	do.	18.84	14.87	18.71	20.39	
All weights	do.	18.39	15.54	18.88	20.79	
Seven markets 3/	do.	18.42	15.62	18.81	20.47	
Sows, Chicago	do.	17.72	12.50	16.77	17.59	
Price received by farmers	do.	18.22	15.10	17.70	20.00	22.00
Hog-corn price ratio 4/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.4	12.0	11.2	12.0	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.7	13.1	12.2	13.0	13.8
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	12.67	12.22	16.24	19.74	
Price received by farmers	do.	11.30	9.64	13.70	15.20	17.70
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.30	23.20	31.37	34.67	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	27.52	23.64	30.77	33.62	
Price received by farmers	do.	24.70	21.60	27.40	30.00	33.30
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers						
(1910-14=100)		340	286	360	391	425
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	47.09	43.90	53.30	54.57	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.46	45.50	52.85	53.55	
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.54	17.40	21.33	22.61	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	28.20	23.89	29.28	31.04	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	23.83	20.34	24.64	25.95	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	33.41	28.52	34.55	36.39	
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Good grade	per pound	73.5	67.1	78.8		
Lamb	do.	69.6	62.8	73.6		
Pork, including lard	do.	40.6	35.7	41.6		
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		236.6	208.3	251.9	261.5	
Retail (1935-39=100)		241.9	217.9	252.6	5/265.5	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Josepn, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights. December was 253.8. in new series.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	1950 Year total or average	1950 January	1950 December	1951 January	1951 February
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1935-39=100)		142	158	160	168	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000					
Cattle and calves	head	3,142	133	251	183	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,915	115	252	115	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	13,103	1,103	1,110	1,160	
Calves	do.	5,850	465	445	433	
Sheep and lambs	do.	11,739	1,077	918	1,058	
Hogs	do.	56,964	5,844	6,777	6,584	
Percentage sows	Percent	15	10	9	6	
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	989	993	1,017	1,022	
Calves	do.	206	196	200	193	
Sheep and lambs	do.	96	100	97	100	
Hogs	do.	244	247	245	250	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	541	539	546	556	
Veal, per head	do.	115	109	109	105	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	46	48	46	48	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	137	138	137	136	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	55	
Lard, per head	do.	35	37	36	38	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	14	15	15	15	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	7,051	592	603	643	
Veal	do.	667	50	48	45	
Lamb and mutton	do.	534	51	42	50	
Pork 2/	do.	7,788	804	924	896	
Lard	do.	2,009	215	242	249	
Total commercial slaughter 3/						
Number slaughtered	1,000					
Cattle	head	17,882	1,510	1,481	1,580	
Calves	do.	9,963	802	744	759	
Sheep and lambs	do.	12,851	1,169	990	1,132	
Hogs	do.	68,446	7,024	7,951	7,884	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	9,239	778	774	844	
Veal	do.	1,138	87	82	81	
Lamb and mutton	do.	582	55	45	53	
Pork 2/	do.	9,257	954	1,076	1,065	
Lard	do.	2,290	244	269	281	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	---	121	113	147	160
Veal	do.	---	16	11	14	11
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	14	9	10	10
Pork	do.	---	474	326	499	666
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	725	545	770	957

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

Index to Statistical Appendix

Table Number Page

Livestock numbers:

Livestock slaughter and meat production and consumption:

Prices and income:

-Continued.

Index to Statistical Appendix, Continued

Table A-1.- Number of livestock on farms January 1, by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1942 to date

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
				All cattle and calves			
1937-41 av.	4,927	11,476	19,034	4,521	16,407	11,122	67,488
1942	5,027	12,705	22,445	4,911	18,359	12,578	76,025
1943	5,099	13,047	24,332	5,225	20,062	13,439	81,204
1944	5,280	13,529	25,586	5,598	20,968	14,373	85,334
1945	5,366	13,513	25,746	5,603	21,190	14,155	85,573
1946	5,239	13,102	24,000	5,502	20,625	13,966	82,434
1947	5,237	13,146	23,439	5,575	20,277	13,533	81,207
1948	5,228	12,594	22,143	5,527	19,261	13,373	78,126
1949	5,295	12,504	22,554	5,468	18,986	13,491	78,298
1950	5,386	12,786	22,871	5,848	19,926	13,235	80,052
1951 1/	5,419	13,289	23,943	6,318	21,463	13,747	84,179
				Milk cows			
1937-41 av.	3,199	6,010	6,483	1,873	5,019	2,238	24,822
1942	3,259	6,369	6,891	1,974	5,391	2,429	26,313
1943	3,262	6,578	7,104	2,037	5,643	2,514	27,138
1944	3,360	6,752	7,183	2,097	5,765	2,547	27,704
1945	3,457	6,854	7,002	2,102	5,806	2,549	27,770
1946	3,400	6,707	6,486	2,086	5,554	2,462	26,695
1947	3,387	6,607	6,257	2,066	5,352	2,429	26,098
1948	3,346	6,381	5,837	2,064	5,063	2,348	25,039
1949	3,356	6,253	5,578	2,052	4,865	2,312	24,416
1950	3,405	6,228	5,544	2,125	4,953	2,318	24,573
1951 1/	3,387	6,235	5,501	2,171	5,011	2,274	24,579
				Other cows			
1937-41 av.	31	397	2,431	589	3,633	3,488	10,569
1942	32	515	3,008	724	4,323	3,976	12,578
1943	43	566	3,451	826	4,835	4,259	13,980
1944	52	642	3,992	945	5,319	4,571	15,521
1945	56	687	4,291	1,010	5,800	4,612	16,456
1946	56	626	4,188	1,028	5,811	4,610	16,319
1947	52	676	4,305	1,079	5,871	4,486	16,469
1948	55	647	4,162	1,093	5,660	4,383	16,000
1949	51	650	4,229	1,037	5,630	4,385	15,982
1950	53	692	4,486	1,146	5,888	4,483	16,748
1951 1/	53	785	4,868	1,316	6,638	4,723	18,383
				Total milk animals 2/			
1937-41 av.	4,504	3,647	9,277	2,701	7,335	3,350	35,814
1942	4,617	9,432	10,170	2,891	8,001	3,726	38,837
1943	4,646	9,670	10,560	3,006	8,485	3,873	40,240
1944	4,813	9,958	10,714	3,124	8,678	3,970	41,257
1945	4,903	9,979	10,352	3,084	8,622	3,909	40,849
1946	4,787	9,700	9,573	3,038	8,222	3,773	39,093
1947	4,786	9,630	9,281	3,043	8,023	3,705	38,468
1948	4,789	9,358	8,734	3,053	7,608	3,633	37,175
1949	4,847	9,236	8,451	3,039	7,335	3,620	36,528
1950	4,949	9,296	8,430	3,178	7,522	3,627	37,002
1951 1/	4,977	9,480	8,508	3,320	7,735	3,645	37,665
				Total animals other than for milk 3/			
1937-41 av.	424	2,829	9,757	1,819	9,072	7,772	31,674
1942	410	3,273	12,275	2,020	10,358	8,852	37,188
1943	453	3,377	13,772	2,219	11,577	9,566	40,964
1944	467	3,571	14,872	2,474	12,290	10,403	44,077
1945	463	3,534	15,394	2,519	12,568	10,246	44,724
1946	452	3,402	14,427	2,464	12,403	10,193	43,341
1947	451	3,516	14,158	2,532	12,254	9,828	42,739
1948	439	3,236	13,409	2,474	11,653	9,740	40,951
1949	448	3,268	14,103	2,429	11,651	9,871	41,770
1950	437	3,490	14,441	2,670	12,404	9,608	43,050
1951 1/	442	3,809	15,435	2,998	13,728	10,102	46,514

For footnotes see next page.

Continued.

Table A-1.- Number of livestock on farms January 1, by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1942 to date, continued

Year	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
				Hogs			
1937-41 av.	1,339	13,639	18,681	5,079	9,427	2,462	50,628
1942	1,275	16,130	25,007	5,348	9,908	2,939	60,607
1943	1,520	18,381	31,783	6,076	12,333	3,788	73,881
1944	1,963	20,980	36,111	6,856	13,580	4,251	83,741
1945	1,519	15,420	24,048	5,738	10,112	2,494	59,331
1946	1,332	16,491	26,627	5,079	9,486	2,286	61,301
1947	1,254	15,585	23,561	5,373	9,155	1,993	56,921
1948	1,226	14,982	22,094	5,556	9,112	2,058	55,028
1949	1,246	15,430	23,598	5,395	9,177	2,282	57,128
1950	1,189	16,732	25,454	5,417	9,470	2,240	60,502
1951 1/	1,158	18,282	28,427	5,568	9,570	2,023	65,028
				All sheep and lambs			
1937-41 av.	871	5,755	8,707	1,078	11,690	23,757	51,857
1942	811	5,606	11,320	980	12,940	24,556	56,213
1943	830	5,543	11,634	945	13,150	23,048	55,150
1944	796	4,891	10,585	876	12,290	21,344	50,782
1945	660	4,297	9,891	809	11,650	19,213	46,520
1946	588	3,992	8,590	774	11,074	17,418	42,436
1947	531	3,513	7,758	746	10,037	15,233	37,818
1948	494	3,336	6,360	708	9,116	14,813	34,827
1949	479	2,979	5,730	697	8,029	13,740	31,654
1950	461	2,860	5,529	701	8,187	13,005	30,743
1951 1/	468	2,938	5,749	729	8,620	13,001	31,505
				Stock sheep and lambs			
1937-41 av.	824	4,530	6,620	1,078	11,410	21,416	45,879
1942	766	4,523	8,384	980	12,645	22,048	49,346
1943	781	4,494	8,224	945	12,795	20,957	48,196
1944	752	3,860	7,492	876	12,110	19,180	44,270
1945	624	3,347	6,322	809	11,390	17,117	39,609
1946	551	2,959	5,240	774	10,839	15,236	35,599
1947	496	2,692	4,786	746	9,752	13,653	32,125
1948	469	2,496	4,277	708	8,991	13,035	29,976
1949	454	2,282	3,907	697	7,894	12,417	27,651
1950	441	2,237	3,828	701	8,029	11,863	27,099
1951 1/	449	2,334	4,121	729	8,502	11,930	28,065
				Horses			
1937-41 av.	748	2,308	3,655	512	1,917	1,581	10,721
1942	669	1,970	3,347	524	1,861	1,502	9,873
1943	640	1,859	3,257	525	1,832	1,492	9,605
1944	610	1,718	3,103	529	1,816	1,416	9,192
1945	582	1,561	2,929	525	1,771	1,347	8,715
1946	549	1,389	2,652	516	1,692	1,255	8,053
1947	506	1,194	2,314	501	1,581	1,153	7,249
1948	459	1,023	2,063	485	1,494	1,065	6,589
1949	407	875	1,829	452	1,367	968	5,898
1950	352	743	1,609	421	1,266	883	5,274
1951 1/	310	645	1,414	397	1,174	823	4,763
				All work stock 4/			
1937-41 av.	805	2,500	4,063	1,499	4,346	1,672	14,884
1942	718	2,116	3,702	1,470	4,074	1,575	13,655
1943	685	1,994	3,594	1,450	3,949	1,559	13,231
1944	649	1,836	3,397	1,440	3,814	1,477	12,613
1945	615	1,665	3,199	1,414	3,653	1,404	11,950
1946	579	1,473	2,890	1,381	3,433	1,307	11,063
1947	533	1,258	2,509	1,341	3,180	1,200	10,021
1948	481	1,075	2,214	1,292	2,959	1,109	9,130
1949	424	917	1,953	1,226	2,719	1,007	8,246
1950	366	778	1,717	1,152	2,492	918	7,423
1951 1/	322	676	1,499	1,092	2,308	856	6,753

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Milk cows, and heifers and heifer calves kept for milk cows.
3/ Other cows, heifers and calves, and all steers and bulls. Most of the cattle on feed January 1 are included in this category.
4/ Horses and mules.

Table A-2.- Number of cattle on farms and ranches January 1, by classes, 1930-51

Year	For milk				Not for milk						
	Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over	Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	Heifer calves	Total	Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over	Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	Calves	Steers	Bulls	Total	All cattle
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1930	23,032	4,851	5,199	33,082	9,162	2,799	8,885	5,608	1,467	27,921	61,003
1931	23,820	4,962	5,189	33,971	9,809	3,015	8,915	5,798	1,522	29,059	63,030
1932	24,896	5,020	5,449	35,365	10,439	3,113	9,744	5,560	1,580	30,436	65,801
1933	25,936	5,250	5,674	36,860	11,346	3,414	11,241	5,765	1,654	33,420	70,280
1934	26,931	5,382	5,675	37,988	12,678	3,656	12,226	6,069	1,752	36,381	74,369
1935	26,082	4,995	5,280	36,357	11,151	3,362	10,980	5,323	1,673	32,489	68,846
1936	25,196	4,772	5,484	35,452	11,048	3,493	10,574	5,637	1,643	32,395	67,847
1937	24,649	4,899	5,305	34,853	10,682	3,229	10,395	5,325	1,614	31,245	66,098
1938	24,466	4,808	5,500	34,774	10,132	3,136	10,053	5,555	1,599	30,475	65,249
1939	24,600	5,122	5,904	35,626	9,987	3,058	10,572	5,192	1,594	30,403	66,029
1940	24,940	5,525	5,967	36,432	10,676	3,357	10,936	5,283	1,625	31,877	68,309
1941	25,453	5,676	6,254	37,383	11,366	3,789	11,413	6,119	1,685	34,372	71,755
1942	26,313	5,889	6,635	38,837	12,578	4,055	12,219	6,596	1,740	37,188	76,025
1943	27,138	6,067	7,035	40,240	13,980	4,547	13,239	7,361	1,837	40,964	81,204
1944	27,704	6,352	7,201	41,257	15,521	4,971	13,768	7,849	1,968	44,077	85,334
1945	27,770	6,307	6,772	40,849	16,456	5,069	12,871	8,329	1,999	44,724	85,573
1946	26,695	5,803	6,595	39,093	16,319	4,854	12,565	7,715	1,888	43,341	82,434
1947	26,098	5,602	6,768	38,468	16,469	4,664	12,595	7,164	1,847	42,739	81,207
1948	25,039	5,649	6,487	37,175	16,000	4,541	11,890	6,743	1,777	40,951	78,126
1949	24,416	5,496	6,616	36,528	15,982	4,689	11,986	7,395	1,718	41,770	78,298
1950	24,573	5,582	6,847	37,002	16,748	4,859	12,697	7,005	1,741	43,050	80,052
1951 1/	24,579	5,692	7,394	37,665	18,383	5,169	14,045	7,183	1,734	46,514	84,179

1/ Preliminary.

Table A-3.- Number of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, on feed January 1, by regions, 1935 to date

Year	Cattle and calves							
	Pennsylvania	North Central States: East North Central	North Central States: West North Central: 3 Corn Belt 1/	North Central States: West North Central: 4 Plains 2/	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States: California	Western States: Other Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1935	76	579	890	339	60	71	200	2,215
1936	84	750	1,130	640	145	100	353	3,202
1937	84	740	947	333	125	138	392	2,759
1938	92	840	1,199	452	192	152	409	3,336
1939	78	855	1,166	530	194	125	355	3,303
1940	74	944	1,330	522	194	163	406	3,633
1941	72	1,002	1,509	639	230	169	444	4,065
1942	70	961	1,521	772	251	128	482	4,185
1943	80	993	1,612	928	264	154	414	4,445
1944	75	905	1,517	802	172	134	410	4,015
1945	70	907	1,642	1,020	210	125	437	4,411
1946	82	888	1,500	948	166	149	478	4,211
1947	90	961	1,552	904	171	166	463	4,307
1948	85	850	1,250	744	165	209	518	3,821
1949	88	939	1,501	965	214	258	565	4,530
1950	88	976	1,564	909	216	196	499	4,448
1951 3/	84	967	1,598	963	235	248	561	4,656

Year	Sheep and lambs				
	11 Corn Belt States 4/: East	11 Corn Belt States 4/: West	Western States 5/	New York	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1935	1,040	2,330	2,249	50	5,669
1936	1,177	2,085	2,389	50	5,701
1937	1,203	1,590	2,754	50	5,597
1938	1,368	1,913	2,765	45	6,091
1939	1,194	2,007	2,639	45	5,885
1940	1,172	1,987	2,642	40	5,841
1941	1,186	2,492	2,744	54	6,479
1942	1,083	2,761	2,978	45	6,867
1943	1,049	3,260	2,596	49	6,954
1944	1,031	2,931	2,506	44	6,512
1945	950	3,404	2,521	36	6,911
1946	1,033	3,182	2,585	37	6,837
1947	821	2,872	1,965	35	5,693
1948	840	2,003	1,983	25	4,851
1949	697	1,771	1,510	25	4,003
1950	623	1,649	1,352	20	3,644
1951 3/	604	1,582	1,235	19	3,440

1/ Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri. 2/ North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ North Central States, except North Dakota. 5/ Eight mountain States, three Pacific States, Texas, Oklahoma, and North Dakota.

Table A-4.- Number of sows farrowing and pigs saved, by spring and fall crops, and number of calves born and lambs saved, 1930 to date

Year	Sows farrowing			Pigs per litter		Pigs saved			Calves born	Lambs saved
	Spring 1/	Fall 2/	Total	Spring 1/	Fall 2/	Spring 1/	Fall 2/	Total		
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Number	Number	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1930	8,278	4,073	12,351	5.96	6.09	49,332	24,803	74,135	25,087	29,467
1931	8,969	4,797	13,766	6.02	6.09	53,984	29,192	83,176	26,056	31,557
1932	8,810	5,179	13,989	5.79	6.08	51,031	31,494	82,525	27,568	29,986
1933	9,122	5,207	14,329	5.86	5.90	53,460	30,740	84,200	28,935	29,768
1934	6,825	2,936	9,761	5.82	5.81	39,698	17,068	56,766	30,240	30,433
1935	5,467	3,857	9,324	6.01	6.03	32,884	23,260	56,144	27,473	27,813
1936	6,954	3,957	10,911	5.96	6.14	41,422	24,303	65,725	28,201	29,762
1937	6,177	3,845	10,022	6.23	6.24	38,525	23,994	62,519	28,033	29,170
1938	6,795	4,517	11,312	6.36	6.32	43,289	28,566	71,855	27,787	30,420
1939	8,692	5,352	14,044	6.12	6.30	53,238	33,714	86,952	28,879	29,913
1940	8,247	4,763	13,010	6.01	6.36	49,584	30,282	79,866	29,886	31,082
1941	7,760	5,535	13,295	6.36	6.43	49,368	35,584	84,952	31,868	32,610
1942	9,684	6,840	16,524	6.31	6.40	61,093	43,810	104,903	34,388	32,312
1943	12,174	7,565	19,739	6.10	6.29	74,223	47,584	121,807	34,797	30,924
1944	9,246	4,882	14,128	6.03	6.33	55,754	30,905	86,659	37,040	28,642
1945	8,298	5,426	13,724	6.29	6.38	52,189	34,593	86,782	35,176	27,042
1946	8,109	4,713	12,822	6.46	6.48	52,392	30,548	82,940	34,550	24,540
1947	8,652	4,907	13,559	6.10	6.39	52,802	31,345	84,147	35,234	22,082
1948	7,964	5,158	13,122	6.44	6.58	51,266	33,921	85,187	33,708	20,011
1949	9,054	5,713	14,767	6.45	6.51	58,426	37,175	95,601	34,537	18,810
1950	9,504	6,117	15,621	6.31	6.65	59,997	40,657	100,654	---	18,431
1951	3/9,920	---		4/6.40		4/63,500				

1/ In six months beginning December of preceding year.
2/ In six months beginning June.
3/ As indicated by breeding intentions reports in December 1950.
4/ Average number pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated number of 1950 spring pigs. Number pigs rounded to nearest 500,000 head.

For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 19.

Table A-5.- Number of cattle and calves on farms, calf crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand, January 1: All cattle	On hand, January 1: All cows 2 years and over	Calves born: Percentage of cows 2 years and over	Calves born: Number	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/: Cattle	Marketings 3/: Calves	Farm slaughter: Cattle	Farm slaughter: Calves	Deaths: Cattle	Deaths: Calves	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	61,003	32,194	78	25,087	5,145	15,232	8,662	487	677	1,203	1,944	13,263
1931	63,030	33,629	77	26,056	4,729	15,021	8,475	520	755	1,328	1,915	13,386
1932	65,801	35,335	78	27,568	4,499	14,569	8,170	717	792	1,349	1,991	14,232
1933	70,280	37,282	78	28,935	4,978	15,928	8,852	790	842	1,372	2,040	15,405
1934 4/	74,369	39,609	76	30,240	4,419	23,325	11,450	828	985	1,437	2,157	14,538
1935 4/	68,846	37,233	74	27,473	5,259	19,041	9,363	632	866	1,561	2,268	13,651
1936	67,847	36,244	78	28,201	4,990	19,991	10,029	613	888	1,349	2,070	14,438
1937	66,098	35,331	79	28,033	5,111	18,854	10,298	570	785	1,405	2,081	13,746
1938	65,249	34,598	80	27,787	5,635	18,552	9,560	569	725	1,308	1,928	14,047
1939	66,029	34,587	83	28,879	6,416	18,380	10,076	571	755	1,298	1,935	15,177
1940	68,309	35,616	84	29,886	7,026	18,413	10,365	571	728	1,397	1,992	15,702
1941	71,755	36,819	87	31,868	7,185	18,948	11,001	571	684	1,461	2,118	17,029
1942	76,025	38,891	88	34,388	8,514	20,740	11,787	646	641	1,560	2,349	18,568
1943	81,204	41,118	85	34,797	7,442	21,310	11,177	708	620	1,734	2,560	19,159
1944	85,334	43,225	86	37,040	7,233	23,627	14,323	854	724	1,734	2,772	19,708
1945	85,573	44,226	80	35,176	8,254	27,391	13,197	916	741	1,644	2,680	19,345
1946	82,434	43,014	80	34,550	8,877	26,188	12,656	943	758	1,566	2,543	18,782
1947	81,207	42,567	83	35,234	8,281	26,995	14,117	860	682	1,473	2,469	19,055
1948	78,126	41,039	82	33,708	7,620	23,370	12,728	800	561	1,405	2,292	18,371
1949	78,298	40,398	85	34,537	8,182	23,103	12,434	776	517	1,532	2,378	19,410
1950	80,052	41,321										
1951	84,179	42,962										

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of calf crop, inshipments and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases. For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 20.

Table A-6.- Number of hogs on farms, pig crops and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Pigs saved: Spring	Pigs saved: Fall	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/	Farm slaughter	Deaths	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	55,705	49,332	24,803	477	53,796	13,540	8,146	15,176
1931	54,835	53,984	29,192	1,366	55,972	14,338	9,766	16,541
1932	59,301	51,031	31,494	477	55,844	15,580	8,752	16,368
1933 4/	62,127	53,460	30,740	1,454	65,661	15,244	8,253	16,566
1934	58,621	39,698	17,068	1,237	55,750	15,110	6,698	12,385
1935	39,066	32,884	23,260	481	32,749	13,348	6,619	10,673
1936	42,975	41,422	24,303	639	44,809	14,295	7,152	12,976
1937	43,083	38,525	23,994	367	40,665	13,333	7,446	12,506
1938	44,525	43,289	28,566	516	46,089	13,325	7,470	14,372
1939	50,012	53,238	33,714	637	52,906	13,980	9,550	17,079
1940	61,165	49,584	30,282	607	64,262	14,155	8,868	17,043
1941	54,353	49,368	35,584	741	57,695	12,789	8,955	17,489
1942	60,607	61,093	43,810	600	67,423	12,533	12,273	21,105
1943	73,881	74,223	47,584	771	83,187	14,016	15,515	25,375
1944	83,741	55,754	30,905	658	86,331	13,551	11,845	20,583
1945	59,331	52,189	34,593	464	60,959	13,631	10,686	19,096
1946	61,301	52,392	30,548	464	64,370	13,850	9,564	19,041
1947	56,921	52,802	31,345	497	63,524	12,781	10,232	18,667
1948	55,028	51,266	33,921	457	61,750	12,267	9,527	18,739
1949	57,128	58,426	37,175	541	70,584	11,549	11,413	20,376
1950	60,502	59,997	40,657					
1951	65,028	5/63,500						

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of pig crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipment and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases. 5/ Indicated by farmers' intentions on December 1 at average size of litters as adjusted for trend.

For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1949, page 21.

Table A-7.- Number of sheep and lambs on farms, lamb crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Lambs saved: Number	Lambs saved: Percent of ewes 1 year and over	Inshipments 2/: Sheep	Inshipments 2/: Lambs	Marketings 3/: Sheep	Marketings 3/: Lambs	Farm slaughter: Sheep	Farm slaughter: Lambs	Deaths: Sheep	Deaths: Lambs	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	51,565	29,467	85	925	5,886	3,212	24,144	222	252	4,149	2,631	1,965
1931	53,233	31,557	86	837	7,546	4,356	26,862	290	301	4,472	2,990	2,052
1932	53,902	29,986	81	517	5,438	2,943	25,017	338	386	5,467	2,638	1,829
1933	53,054	29,768	80	771	6,184	2,825	25,178	352	414	5,106	2,399	1,860
1934 4/	53,503	30,433	82	887	6,956	7,013	25,079	354	436	4,426	2,663	1,911
1935	51,808	27,813	79	1,018	6,452	4,560	23,796	342	338	4,218	2,701	1,835
1936	51,136	29,762	84	666	6,037	4,627	24,206	305	332	4,373	2,910	1,852
1937	50,848	29,170	84	742	6,564	4,579	24,245	295	303	4,172	2,667	1,932
1938	51,063	30,420	88	862	6,606	4,565	25,767	295	315	3,891	2,770	2,038
1939	51,348	29,913	86	1,107	6,839	4,415	25,459	292	305	3,951	2,678	2,029
1940	52,107	31,082	87	1,060	7,186	4,384	25,846	272	299	3,910	2,804	2,101
1941	53,920	32,610	90	935	7,440	4,231	26,510	292	290	4,191	3,178	2,251
1942	56,213	32,312	86	828	8,020	6,064	28,598	291	287	4,029	2,954	2,313
1943	55,150	30,924	83	639	7,624	7,818	27,505	289	287	4,350	3,306	2,108
1944	50,782	28,642	84	576	6,844	7,362	25,349	279	283	4,095	2,956	1,938
1945	46,520	27,042	86	591	7,005	7,257	24,986	274	297	3,418	2,490	1,912
1946	42,436	24,540	89	730	6,808	6,496	24,172	276	304	3,170	2,278	1,763
1947	37,818	22,082	88	652	6,000	5,052	21,116	257	302	2,890	2,108	1,579
1948	34,827	20,011	85	637	5,632	4,620	19,262	244	298	3,006	2,023	1,404
1949	31,654	18,810	87	763	5,338	3,419	17,019	222	274	2,949	1,885	1,313
1950	30,743	18,431	89									
1951	31,505											

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of lamb crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases. For data for 1924-29 see Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 22.

Table A-8.- Number of stocker and feeder cattle and calves and sheep and lambs received in eight Corn Belt States, by months 1940 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
	Cattle and calves												
1940	91	77	102	103	140	116	198	313	500	611	304	120	2,676
1941	132	95	102	138	124	95	104	182	327	498	368	232	2,395
1942	123	79	103	154	115	99	91	222	387	579	391	223	2,564
1943	104	85	138	142	99	81	64	160	400	546	382	162	2,363
1944	92	71	73	84	74	106	105	236	367	525	376	170	2,280
1945	113	72	114	129	103	117	104	203	339	669	404	187	2,555
1946	97	97	91	109	106	141	176	323	388	730	445	233	2,935
1947	154	98	161	131	100	120	157	198	395	621	321	145	2,601
1948	103	59	54	82	117	134	138	221	390	606	461	195	2,559
1949	94	72	126	100	92	140	164	384	586	869	432	198	3,258
1950	133	112	141	128	130	160	152	239	447	763	483	251	3,140
	Sheep and lambs												
1940	107	100	100	88	168	131	226	512	1,041	1,080	210	140	3,903
1941	136	145	134	56	141	155	196	471	861	1,029	236	129	3,689
1942	147	91	105	159	206	153	172	488	789	1,002	465	202	3,980
1943	178	191	221	139	194	151	129	432	927	979	588	141	4,270
1944	129	99	94	66	118	90	103	382	770	924	420	152	3,345
1945	132	77	107	87	97	52	100	354	932	1,072	315	129	3,454
1946	102	154	90	67	56	76	98	338	865	941	304	121	3,212
1947	171	198	133	136	128	134	166	283	556	677	393	131	3,107
1948	81	64	65	69	106	149	61	229	495	548	367	133	2,369
1949	151	74	61	63	163	138	144	335	534	572	212	71	2,518
1950	115	112	101	98	157	166	153	355	576	591	238	252	2,915

1/ Monthly data may not add exactly to annual total because of rounding.

Table A-9.- Meat production and consumption from total United States slaughter, 1899 to date 1/

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork (excluding lard)			All meats			Lard			Population July 1 3/
	Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption 2/		
		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita	
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.	Mil.
1899	5,522	5,029	67.2	387	387	5.2	487	486	6.5	6,310	5,371	71.8	12,706	11,273	150.7	1,679	954	12.8	74.8
1900	5,628	5,104	67.1	397	397	5.2	493	492	6.5	6,329	5,476	71.9	12,847	11,469	150.7	1,653	1,002	13.2	76.1
1901	5,814	5,266	67.9	422	422	5.4	548	548	7.0	6,357	5,493	70.8	13,141	11,729	151.1	1,650	997	12.8	77.6
1902	5,649	5,148	65.0	476	476	6.0	564	560	7.1	5,936	5,288	66.7	12,625	11,472	144.8	1,493	956	12.1	79.2
1903	6,240	5,711	70.9	492	492	6.1	563	560	6.9	6,067	5,498	68.2	13,362	12,261	152.1	1,529	952	11.8	80.6
1904	6,176	5,719	69.6	491	491	6.0	538	537	6.5	6,387	5,803	70.6	13,592	12,550	152.7	1,638	1,031	12.5	82.2
1905	6,504	5,973	71.3	556	556	6.6	530	529	6.3	6,629	5,945	71.0	14,219	13,003	155.2	1,742	991	11.8	83.8
1906	6,537	6,087	71.3	598	598	7.0	543	542	6.3	6,793	6,065	71.0	14,471	13,292	155.6	1,735	1,002	11.7	85.4
1907	6,544	6,141	70.6	626	626	7.2	553	551	6.3	7,059	6,443	74.1	14,782	13,761	158.2	1,790	1,146	13.2	87.0
1908	6,662	6,393	72.1	637	637	7.2	559	557	6.3	7,535	6,898	77.7	15,393	14,485	163.3	1,911	1,277	14.4	88.7
1909	6,915	6,713	73.5	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.7	6,557	6,065	66.4	14,740	14,044	153.8	1,628	1,127	12.3	91.3
1910	6,647	6,508	69.8	667	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.8	13,998	13,527	145.1	1,553	1,156	12.4	93.2
1911	6,549	6,426	67.9	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.3	6,961	6,482	68.4	14,869	14,264	150.6	1,747	1,138	12.0	94.7
1912	6,234	6,153	64.0	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	66.2	14,453	13,901	144.7	1,658	1,102	11.5	96.1
1913	6,182	6,157	62.8	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.2	6,979	6,501	66.3	14,475	13,968	142.5	1,653	1,073	10.9	98.0
1914	6,017	6,144	61.5	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.6	14,103	13,877	138.9	1,554	1,090	10.9	99.9
1915	6,075	5,668	56.0	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	66.1	14,886	13,561	133.9	1,689	1,198	11.8	101.3
1916	6,460	6,003	58.4	655	656	6.4	585	595	5.8	8,207	7,037	68.4	15,907	14,291	139.0	1,706	1,228	11.9	102.8
1917	7,239	6,687	64.2	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.5	15,501	13,988	134.2	1,451	1,091	10.5	104.2
1918	7,726	7,167	68.0	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.6	17,341	14,811	140.5	1,899	1,291	12.2	105.4
1919	6,756	6,462	61.0	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.4	16,642	14,596	137.8	1,920	1,174	11.1	105.9
1920	6,306	6,293	58.6	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	63.1	15,334	14,489	135.0	1,958	1,319	12.3	107.3
1921	6,022	6,024	55.1	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.1	7,697	7,029	64.3	15,178	14,539	133.0	2,108	1,217	11.1	109.3
1922	6,588	6,503	58.6	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	65.3	16,138	15,162	136.7	2,302	1,503	13.6	110.9
1923	6,721	6,671	59.2	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.3	9,483	8,310	73.7	17,708	16,492	146.3	2,718	1,643	14.6	112.7
1924	6,877	6,786	59.1	972	977	8.5	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.5	17,595	16,810	146.3	2,660	1,663	14.5	114.9
1925	6,878	6,888	59.1	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.2	8,128	7,734	66.3	16,598	16,220	139.1	2,153	1,453	12.5	116.6
1926	7,089	7,074	59.8	955	959	8.1	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.7	16,649	16,199	137.0	2,206	1,465	12.4	118.2
1927	6,395	6,484	54.1	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.3	8,430	8,058	67.3	16,321	16,048	134.0	2,263	1,541	12.9	119.8
1928	5,771	5,872	48.4	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.5	9,041	8,545	70.5	16,248	15,860	130.8	2,458	1,626	13.4	121.3
1929	5,871	6,048	49.3	761	766	6.3	682	686	5.6	8,833	8,484	69.2	16,147	15,984	130.4	2,461	1,598	13.0	122.6
1930	5,917	6,021	48.6	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.7	8,482	8,246	66.6	16,016	15,885	128.3	2,227	1,584	12.8	123.8
1931	6,009	6,025	48.3	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.1	8,739	8,477	67.9	16,456	16,212	129.9	2,307	1,706	13.7	124.8
1932	5,789	5,830	46.4	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	70.3	16,418	16,359	130.2	2,380	1,814	14.4	125.6
1933 4/	6,440	6,469	51.2	891	891	7.1	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	70.3	17,417	17,094	135.3	2,475	1,772	14.0	126.3
1934 4/	8,345	8,066	63.5	1,246	1,182	9.3	851	798	6.3	8,397	8,141	64.0	18,839	18,187	143.1	2,091	1,648	13.0	127.1
1935 4/	6,608	6,770	52.9	1,023	1,087	8.5	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	48.1	14,427	14,935	116.7	1,276	1,226	9.6	128.0
1936 4/	7,358	7,742	60.1	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.6	7,474	7,061	54.8	16,761	16,727	129.8	1,679	1,449	11.2	128.9
1937	6,798	7,107	54.8	1,108	1,108	8.6	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,185	55.4	15,709	16,257	125.4	1,431	1,361	10.5	129.6
1938	6,908	7,058	54.0	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.8	16,479	16,500	126.2	1,728	1,440	11.0	130.7
1939	7,011	7,159	54.4	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.6	8,660	8,474	64.3	17,534	17,493	132.8	2,037	1,671	12.7	131.7
1940	7,175	7,207	54.7	981	981	7.4	876	873	6.6	10,044	9,701	73.0	19,076	18,812	141.7	2,288	1,924	14.5	132.8
1941	8,082	8,021	60.5	1,036	1,005	7.6	923	901	6.8	9,528	9,007	67.9	19,569	18,934	142.8	2,228	1,879	14.2	132.6
1942	8,843	8,049	60.8	1,151	1,084	8.2	1,042	950	7.2	10,876	8,368	63.3	21,912	18,451	139.5	2,401	1,759	13.3	132.3
1943	8,571	6,860	52.9	1,167	1,059	8.2	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	78.5	24,482	18,921	146.0	2,865	1,820	14.0	139.6
1944	9,112	7,146	55.3	1,738	1,594	12.4	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	79.2	25,178	19,827	153.5	3,054	1,824	14.1	139.2
1945	10,275	7,663	59.0	1,661	1,533	11.8	1,054	943	7.3	10,697	8,598	66.3	23,687	18,737	144.4	2,066	1,622	12.5	139.8
1946	9,373	8,533	61.3	1,440	1,379	9.9	970	925	6.6	11,173	10,530	75.6	22,956	21,367	153.4	2,138	1,669	12.0	139.3
1947	10,428	9,913	69.1	1,599	1,540	10.7	802	765	5.4	10,601	10,018	69.8	23,430	22,236	155.0	2,426	1,928	13.4	143.5
1948	9,079	9,157	62.6	1,412	1,373	9.4	750	736	5.0	10,205	9,990	68.4	21,446	21,256	145.4	2,356	2,008	13.7	146.2
1949	9,448	9,429	63.5	1,322	1,299	8.7	607	610	4.1	10,333	10,040	67.6	21,710	21,378	143.9	2,552	1,929	12.8	148.6
1950 5/	9,545	9,538	63.0	1,223	1,198	7.9	601	601	4.0	10,867	10,532	69.6	22,236	21,869	144.5	2,690	2,197	14.4	151.3

1/ Beginning 1940, data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Beginning 1941, consumption is civilian only. Units are carcass weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.
2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.
3/ Beginning 1909, adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years.
4/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs, data for which can be found in The Livestock and Meat Situation for February, 1949, page 23.
5/ Preliminary.

Table A-10.- Livestock slaughtered and meat and lard produced, by class of slaughter, United States, 1937 to date 1/

Year	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Total	Livestock slaughter: Farm	Livestock slaughter: Total	Meat production: Commercial: Federally inspected	Meat production: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Commercial: Total	Meat production: Farm	Meat production: Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle					Beef				
1937	10,070	4,614	14,684	570	15,254	4,699	1,879	6,578	220	6,798
1938	9,776	4,477	14,253	569	14,822	4,798	1,887	6,685	223	6,908
1939	9,446	4,604	14,050	571	14,621	4,803	1,983	6,786	225	7,011
1940	9,743	4,644	14,387	571	14,958	4,964	1,984	6,948	227	7,175
1941	10,932	4,916	15,848	571	16,419	5,732	2,126	7,858	224	8,082
1942	12,340	5,047	17,387	646	18,033	6,343	2,249	8,592	251	8,843
1943	11,721	5,416	17,137	708	17,845	5,966	2,340	8,306	265	8,571
1944	13,955	5,035	18,990	854	19,844	6,652	2,149	8,801	311	9,112
1945	14,531	6,244	20,775	916	21,691	7,236	2,700	9,936	339	10,275
1946	11,402	7,479	18,881	943	19,824	5,661	3,349	9,010	363	9,373
1947	15,524	6,009	21,533	860	22,393	7,535	2,561	10,096	332	10,428
1948	12,994	5,392	18,386	800	19,186	6,433	2,333	8,766	313	9,079
1949	13,222	4,791	18,013	776	18,789	6,998	2,144	9,142	306	9,448
1950	13,103	4,779	17,882			7,051	2,188	9,239	2/306	9,545
	Calves					Veal				
1937	6,281	3,238	9,519	785	10,304	675	348	1,023	85	1,108
1938	5,492	3,089	8,581	725	9,306	581	332	913	81	994
1939	5,264	3,172	8,436	755	9,191	559	348	907	84	991
1940	5,358	3,003	8,361	728	9,089	568	328	896	85	981
1941	5,461	3,107	8,568	684	9,252	599	353	952	84	1,036
1942	5,760	3,317	9,077	641	9,718	667	399	1,066	85	1,151
1943	5,209	4,111	9,320	620	9,940	597	481	1,078	89	1,167
1944	7,769	5,749	13,518	724	14,242	926	703	1,629	109	1,738
1945	7,020	5,884	12,904	741	13,645	823	729	1,552	109	1,661
1946	5,841	5,569	11,410	758	12,168	642	687	1,329	111	1,440
1947	7,933	5,080	13,013	682	13,695	904	589	1,493	106	1,599
1948	6,907	4,860	11,767	561	12,328	791	532	1,323	89	1,412
1949	6,449	4,379	10,828	517	11,345	746	494	1,240	82	1,322
1950	5,850	4,113	9,963			667	471	1,138	2/85	1,223
	Sheep and lambs					Lamb and mutton				
1937	17,270	3,587	20,857	598	21,455	683	143	826	26	852
1938	18,060	3,753	21,813	610	22,423	720	151	871	26	897
1939	17,241	3,776	21,017	597	21,614	694	152	846	26	872
1940	17,349	3,651	21,000	571	21,571	702	150	852	24	876
1941	18,122	3,605	21,727	582	22,309	749	150	899	24	923
1942	21,624	3,383	25,007	578	25,585	879	139	1,018	24	1,042
1943	23,363	3,134	26,497	576	27,073	958	122	1,080	24	1,104
1944	21,875	2,918	24,793	562	25,355	887	114	1,001	23	1,024
1945	21,218	2,850	24,068	571	24,639	913	117	1,030	24	1,054
1946	19,884	2,350	22,234	580	22,814	850	96	946	24	970
1947	16,667	1,540	18,207	559	18,766	717	62	779	23	802
1948	15,343	1,554	16,897	542	17,439	665	63	728	22	750
1949	12,137	1,240	13,377	496	13,872	536	51	587	20	607
1950	11,739	1,112	12,851			534	48	582	2/19	601
	Hogs					Pork, excluding lard				
1937	31,642	8,740	40,382	13,333	53,715	4,254	1,011	5,265	1,686	6,951
1938	36,186	9,416	45,602	13,325	58,927	4,884	1,111	5,995	1,685	7,680
1939	41,368	11,213	52,581	13,980	66,561	5,552	1,337	6,889	1,771	8,660
1940	50,398	13,057	63,455	14,155	77,610	6,614	1,632	8,246	1,798	10,044
1941	46,520	12,088	58,608	12,789	71,397	6,345	1,559	7,904	1,624	9,528
1942	53,897	12,117	66,014	12,533	78,547	7,562	1,672	9,234	1,642	10,876
1943	63,431	17,779	81,210	14,016	95,226	9,308	2,454	11,762	1,878	13,640
1944	69,017	15,500	84,517	13,551	98,068	9,456	2,046	11,502	1,802	13,304
1945	40,960	17,300	58,260	13,631	71,891	6,387	2,456	8,843	1,854	10,697
1946	44,394	18,000	62,394	13,850	76,244	6,642	2,592	9,234	1,939	11,173
1947	49,116	12,813	61,929	12,781	74,710	7,080	1,731	8,811	1,790	10,601
1948	47,615	12,054	59,669	12,267	71,936	6,832	1,654	8,486	1,719	10,205
1949	53,032	10,712	63,744	11,549	75,293	7,352	1,393	8,745	1,588	10,333
1950	56,964	11,482	68,446			7,788	1,469	9,257	2/1,610	10,867
	Lard production 3/					All meat, excluding lard				
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds					
1937	759				1,431	10,311	3,381	13,692	2,017	15,709
1938	1,034				1,728	10,983	3,481	14,464	2,015	16,479
1939	1,272				2,037	11,608	3,820	15,428	2,106	17,534
1940	1,527				2,288	12,848	4,094	16,942	2,134	19,076
1941	1,526				2,228	13,425	4,188	17,613	1,956	19,569
1942	1,724				2,401	15,451	4,459	19,910	2,002	21,912
1943	2,080				2,865	16,829	5,397	22,226	2,256	24,482
1944	2,367				3,054	17,921	5,012	22,933	2,245	25,178
1945	1,311				2,066	15,359	6,002	21,361	2,326	23,687
1946	1,344				2,138	13,795	6,724	20,519	2,437	22,956
1947	1,722	277	1,999	427	2,426	16,236	4,943	21,179	2,251	23,430
1948	1,680	252	1,932	424	2,356	14,721	4,582	19,303	2,143	21,446
1949	1,923	247	2,170	382	2,552	15,632	4,082	19,714	1,996	21,710
1950	2,009	281	2,290			16,040	4,176	20,216	2/2,020	22,236

1/ Beginning 1940, excludes slaughter and meat production under Federal inspection in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands.
2/ Preliminary estimate. 3/ Including rendered pork fat.

Table A-11.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1946 to date 1/

Year and month	Cattle: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Cattle: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle: Slaughter: Total commercial	Cattle: Beef production: Federally inspected	Cattle: Beef production: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle: Beef production: Total commercial	Calves: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Calves: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Calves: Slaughter: Total commercial	Calves: Veal production: Federally inspected	Calves: Veal production: Other wholesale and retail	Calves: Veal production: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1946												
Jan.	1,011	753	1,764	515	341	856	440	515	955	42	58	100
Feb.	1,014	638	1,652	533	294	827	427	446	873	37	48	85
Mar.	902	668	1,570	487	309	796	484	519	1,003	38	54	92
Apr.	714	718	1,432	394	340	734	445	509	954	37	54	91
May	676	492	1,168	373	232	605	402	409	811	37	46	83
June	450	459	909	245	216	461	306	378	684	31	47	78
July	1,238	767	2,005	605	349	954	542	530	1,072	69	71	140
Aug.	1,239	638	1,877	594	277	871	534	479	1,013	70	68	138
Sept.	358	465	823	167	199	366	364	398	762	43	55	98
Oct.	1,102	791	1,893	503	337	840	650	553	1,203	87	80	167
Nov.	1,347	579	1,926	605	239	844	656	438	1,094	84	57	141
Dec.	1,351	511	1,862	640	216	856	591	395	986	65	50	114
Year	11,402	7,479	18,881	5,661	3,349	9,010	5,841	5,569	11,410	642	687	1,329
1947												
Jan.	1,403	552	1,955	693	242	935	591	410	1,001	65	48	113
Feb.	1,143	444	1,587	581	197	778	521	370	891	51	42	93
Mar.	1,228	465	1,693	622	207	829	644	444	1,088	59	45	104
Apr.	1,203	482	1,685	618	213	831	678	465	1,143	62	46	108
May	1,264	464	1,728	642	204	846	626	416	1,042	64	46	110
June	1,207	470	1,677	599	205	804	621	401	1,022	71	47	118
July	1,274	507	1,781	622	217	839	656	436	1,092	81	55	136
Aug.	1,217	469	1,686	571	195	766	628	405	1,033	80	51	131
Sept.	1,407	568	1,975	653	235	888	719	457	1,176	96	58	154
Oct.	1,497	586	2,083	686	238	924	813	459	1,272	107	56	163
Nov.	1,337	500	1,837	612	201	813	762	410	1,172	95	50	145
Dec.	1,346	500	1,846	636	207	843	673	406	1,07[illegible]	73	45	118
Year	15,524	6,009	21,533	7,535	2,561	10,096	7,933	5,080	13,013	904	589	1,493
1948												
Jan.	1,312	507	1,819	637	219	856	586	408	994	61	45	106
Feb.	977	387	1,364	493	169	662	511	379	890	49	38	87
Mar.	986	481	1,467	513	214	727	567	511	1,078	50	49	99
Apr.	899	499	1,398	475	225	700	550	493	1,043	52	49	101
May	877	449	1,326	450	200	650	509	416	925	53	44	97
June	1,109	440	1,549	545	188	733	620	420	1,040	71	47	118
July	1,046	415	1,461	505	176	681	577	371	948	72	44	116
Aug.	1,086	428	1,514	524	181	705	569	373	942	76	45	121
Sept.	1,178	479	1,657	570	203	773	599	393	992	80	47	127
Oct.	1,176	457	1,633	558	194	752	633	376	1,009	82	44	126
Nov.	1,151	439	1,590	558	186	744	614	365	979	78	41	119
Dec.	1,197	411	1,608	605	178	783	572	355	927	67	39	106
Year	12,994	5,392	18,386	6,433	2,333	8,766	6,907	4,860	11,767	791	532	1,323
1949												
Jan.	1,126	406	1,532	596	183	779	484	348	832	54	37	91
Feb.	994	354	1,348	536	161	697	476	337	813	47	35	82
Mar.	1,102	408	1,510	607	187	794	619	423	1,042	57	41	98
Apr.	996	365	1,361	553	168	721	562	368	930	54	37	91
May	1,025	385	1,410	571	176	747	510	357	867	53	39	92
June	1,095	399	1,494	585	180	765	533	365	898	60	43	103
July	1,091	376	1,467	576	167	743	501	336	837	62	41	103
Aug.	1,232	440	1,672	642	193	835	549	381	930	74	49	123
Sept.	1,224	449	1,673	625	196	821	552	379	931	74	47	121
Oct.	1,156	426	1,582	585	187	772	568	379	947	75	45	120
Nov.	1,117	419	1,536	566	185	751	585	378	963	75	44	119
Dec.	1,064	364	1,428	556	161	717	510	328	838	61	36	97
Year	13,222	4,791	18,013	6,998	2,144	9,142	6,449	4,379	10,828	746	494	1,240
1950												
Jan.	1,102	408	1,510	592	186	778	465	337	802	50	37	87
Feb.	939	353	1,292	510	164	674	443	337	780	44	36	80
Mar.	1,082	397	1,479	589	183	772	586	403	989	56	40	96
Apr.	959	364	1,323	526	168	694	494	340	834	50	37	87
May	1,075	410	1,485	585	189	774	496	353	849	54	40	94
June	1,066	396	1,462	571	182	753	485	329	814	57	40	97
July	1,070	404	1,474	570	184	754	443	324	767	56	41	97
Aug.	1,184	431	1,615	632	196	828	484	352	836	65	43	108
Sept.	1,196	422	1,618	640	192	832	488	345	833	65	42	107
Oct.	1,169	419	1,588	623	190	813	515	356	871	64	41	105
Nov.	1,151	404	1,555	611	182	793	505	338	843	58	40	98
Dec.	1,110	371	1,481	602	172	774	446	299	745	48	34	82
Year	13,103	4,779	17,882	7,051	2,188	9,239	5,850	4,113	9,963	667	471	1,138

-Continued.

Table A-11.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1946 to date, continued

Year and month	Sheep and lambs						Hogs						All meat production excluding lard		
	Slaughter			Lamb and mutton production			Slaughter			Pork production excluding lard					
	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1946															
Jan.	1,440	177	1,617	66	8	74	4,911	2,087	6,998	747	306	1,053	1,370	713	2,083
Feb.	2,196	196	2,392	101	8	109	4,698	1,791	6,489	709	258	967	1,379	608	1,987
Mar.	1,978	171	2,149	90	7	97	3,636	1,756	5,392	534	248	782	1,149	618	1,767
Apr.	1,736	184	1,920	76	7	83	3,858	1,900	5,758	573	274	847	1,080	675	1,755
May	1,373	203	1,576	57	8	65	4,149	1,430	5,579	606	206	812	1,073	492	1,565
June	1,665	241	1,906	65	10	75	2,316	991	3,307	360	146	506	701	419	1,120
July	1,738	215	1,953	69	8	77	3,863	1,583	5,446	668	236	904	1,411	664	2,075
Aug.	1,578	175	1,753	65	7	72	2,843	1,257	4,100	426	176	602	1,155	528	1,683
Sept.	1,300	205	1,505	54	9	63	438	363	801	71	53	124	335	316	651
Oct.	2,005	308	2,313	84	12	96	3,114	1,381	4,495	462	201	663	1,137	630	1,767
Nov.	1,529	153	1,682	65	7	71	5,434	1,784	7,218	758	253	1,011	1,512	556	2,068
Dec.	1,346	122	1,468	59	5	64	5,133	1,677	7,214	728	235	963	1,493	506	1,999
Year	19,884	2,350	22,234	850	96	946	44,394	18,000	62,394	6,642	2,592	9,234	13,795	6,724	20,519
1947															
Jan.	1,542	130	1,672	68	4	74	5,844	1,682	7,526	827	229	1,056	1,653	525	2,178
Feb.	1,271	97	1,368	57	5	62	3,897	1,187	5,084	555	154	709	1,244	398	1,642
Mar.	1,237	105	1,342	58	4	62	3,406	914	4,320	485	119	604	1,224	375	1,599
Apr.	1,322	114	1,436	61	4	65	3,616	1,006	4,622	521	135	656	1,262	398	1,660
May	1,355	109	1,464	60	5	65	3,831	895	4,726	561	117	678	1,327	372	1,699
June	1,329	128	1,457	55	5	60	3,653	828	4,481	556	111	667	1,281	368	1,649
July	1,280	139	1,419	53	6	59	3,455	793	4,248	551	110	661	1,307	388	1,695
Aug.	1,253	133	1,386	52	5	57	2,731	699	3,430	438	96	534	1,141	347	1,488
Sept.	1,458	157	1,615	60	6	66	2,948	953	3,901	418	131	549	1,227	430	1,657
Oct.	1,697	163	1,860	70	6	76	3,978	1,157	5,135	540	160	700	1,403	460	1,863
Nov.	1,471	139	1,610	61	5	66	5,501	1,246	6,747	759	173	932	1,528	428	1,956
Dec.	1,451	129	1,580	62	5	67	6,254	1,455	7,709	868	197	1,065	1,639	454	2,093
Year	16,667	1,540	18,207	717	62	779	49,116	12,813	61,929	7,080	1,731	8,811	16,236	4,943	21,179
1948															
Jan.	1,347	117	1,464	60	5	65	5,223	1,376	6,599	746	183	929	1,504	452	1,956
Feb.	1,208	99	1,307	56	4	60	3,746	1,109	4,855	531	148	679	1,129	359	1,488
Mar.	1,175	122	1,297	55	5	60	3,574	1,223	4,797	506	166	672	1,124	434	1,558
Apr.	1,045	133	1,178	47	6	53	3,343	1,133	4,476	473	156	629	1,047	436	1,483
May	978	117	1,095	42	5	47	3,562	1,002	4,564	515	138	653	1,060	387	1,447
June	1,262	143	1,405	52	6	58	4,235	884	5,119	651	123	774	1,319	364	1,683
July	1,195	138	1,333	50	5	55	3,044	705	3,749	478	98	576	1,705	323	1,428
Aug.	1,264	142	1,406	53	6	59	2,440	648	3,088	372	91	463	1,025	323	1,348
Sept.	1,464	152	1,616	62	6	68	2,836	839	3,675	398	116	514	1,110	372	1,482
Oct.	1,632	137	1,769	68	5	73	4,098	951	5,049	559	131	690	1,267	374	1,641
Nov.	1,444	135	1,579	62	5	67	5,425	1,031	6,456	752	144	896	1,450	376	1,826
Dec.	1,329	119	1,448	58	5	63	6,089	1,153	7,242	851	160	1,011	1,581	382	1,963
Year	15,343	1,554	16,897	665	63	728	47,615	12,054	59,669	6,832	1,654	8,486	14,721	4,582	19,303
1949															
Jan.	1,235	104	1,339	55	5	60	5,844	617	6,461	762	145	907	1,467	370	1,837
Feb.	1,046	86	1,132	48	3	51	4,191	858	5,049	563	127	690	1,194	326	1,520
Mar.	949	83	1,032	43	4	47	5,020	301	5,321	594	130	724	1,301	362	1,663
Apr.	676	88	764	31	3	34	4,316	418	4,734	528	108	636	1,166	316	1,482
May	761	97	858	34	4	38	4,339	160	4,499	518	101	619	1,176	320	1,496
June	898	113	1,011	37	5	42	4,154	293	4,447	557	92	649	1,239	320	1,559
July	976	107	1,083	41	4	45	3,314	476	3,790	495	83	578	1,174	295	1,469
Aug.	1,126	128	1,254	48	6	54	3,626	545	4,171	500	98	598	1,264	346	1,610
Sept.	1,180	119	1,299	51	4	55	4,137	592	4,729	518	110	628	1,268	357	1,625
Oct.	1,172	115	1,287	51	5	56	5,102	769	5,871	634	118	752	1,345	355	1,700
Nov.	1,060	106	1,166	48	4	52	6,144	928	7,072	802	139	941	1,491	372	1,863
Dec.	1,058	94	1,152	49	4	53	6,777	823	7,600	881	142	1,023	1,547	343	1,890
Year	12,137	1,240	13,377	536	51	587	56,964	6,780	63,744	7,352	1,393	8,745	15,632	4,082	19,714
1950															
Jan.	1,077	92	1,169	51	4	55	5,844	1,180	7,024	804	150	954	1,497	377	1,874
Feb.	863	74	937	43	3	46	4,191	1,017	5,208	559	127	686	1,156	330	1,486
Mar.	939	81	1,020	46	4	50	5,020	1,039	6,059	661	130	791	1,352	357	1,709
Apr.	833	89	922	40	4	44	4,316	905	5,221	574	113	687	1,190	322	1,512
May	941	93	1,034	43	4	47	4,339	890	5,229	593	110	703	1,275	343	1,618
June	1,019	102	1,121	44	4	48	4,154	806	4,960	605	104	709	1,277	330	1,607
July	960	102	1,062	41	5	46	3,314	708	4,022	515	92	607	1,182	322	1,504
Aug.	1,076	118	1,194	47	5	52	3,626	809	4,435	520	104	624	1,264	348	1,612
Sept.	1,063	101	1,164	47	4	51	4,137	856	4,993	547	111	658	1,299	349	1,648
Oct.	1,081	99	1,180	47	4	51	5,102	996	6,098	665	131	796	1,399	366	1,765
Nov.	969	89	1,058	43	4	47	6,144	1,102	7,246	821	145	966	1,533	371	1,904
Dec.	918	72	990	42	3	45	6,777	1,174	7,951	924	152	1,076	1,616	361	1,977
Year	11,739	1,112	12,851	534	48	582	56,964	11,482	68,446	7,788	1,469	9,257	16,040	4,176	20,216

Table A-12.- Average live weight of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months 1946 to date

Year and month	Cattle		Calves		Sheep and lambs		Hogs	
	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1946								
January	974	930	176	192	101	100	258	252
February	987	943	156	174	101	100	260	253
March	992	944	140	162	100	99	249	241
April	994	945	145	163	95	95	248	242
May	990	950	160	180	90	90	244	241
June	986	937	177	203	86	86	263	255
July	923	902	232	237	87	87	290	275
August	917	889	239	246	90	89	263	251
September	912	868	213	231	90	90	264	250
October	898	868	246	253	94	93	246	242
November	895	871	240	240	93	93	242	239
December	922	895	204	212	95	94	247	241
Year	943	909	199	210	94	93	255	248
1947								
January	944	915	202	206	96	96	255	248
February	951	922	178	188	99	98	252	244
March	948	919	165	171	101	101	253	245
April	946	915	163	169	100	99	254	247
May	934	906	183	189	95	95	260	253
June	926	900	[illegible]	208	87	87	273	265
July	922	893	222	224	88	88	288	278
August	905	877	234	232	90	89	284	272
September	906	875	244	238	89	89	247	242
October	911	878	243	236	92	91	232	230
November	917	883	236	231	92	91	234	232
December	929	896	205	206	94	93	242	239
Year	928	898	209	209	94	93	254	248
1948								
January	940	909	192	195	97	96	254	246
February	957	922	175	178	100	100	255	246
March	966	926	160	164	101	100	250	242
April	972	929	168	172	100	98	245	239
May	955	919	188	189	93	93	253	248
June	936	903	205	205	88	88	273	266
July	925	895	225	219	90	90	281	272
August	929	897	242	232	92	91	271	262
September	931	898	245	232	92	91	243	239
October	926	897	240	229	93	92	234	232
November	946	912	234	225	94	94	241	240
December	963	932	217	211	95	94	250	246
Year	945	911	209	207	94	94	253	247
1949								
January	980	947	202	199	97	96	255	250
February	990	957	180	181	98	97	250	244
March	1,000	962	165	168	99	98	246	240
April	996	954	170	174	97	96	242	237
May	997	954	182	189	93	93	249	244
June	972	941	201	205	88	88	266	259
July	964	932	223	220	90	89	282	272
August	961	925	243	237	92	91	262	254
September	956	922	247	237	91	91	234	231
October	958	924	244	232	93	92	228	226
November	968	934	237	228	95	95	236	234
December	984	949	218	213	98	97	243	239
Year	976	942	209	207	94	94	248	243
1950								
January	993	958	196	197	100	100	247	242
February	1,000	965	181	185	104	103	239	234
March	995	961	170	173	103	102	234	231
April	991	957	181	186	100	99	238	234
May	985	953	193	198	95	95	245	240
June	974	945	209	213	90	90	264	258
July	973	942	226	225	91	91	278	269
August	974	943	241	232	93	93	259	252
September	983	950	241	231	93	93	233	230
October	988	953	225	218	93	93	230	228
November	998	963	214	214	95	94	237	235
December	1,017	983	200	202	97	96	245	241
Year	989	956	206	206	96	95	244	240

Table A-13.- Meat and lard produced per head of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months, 1946 to date

Year and month	Beef		Veal		Lamb and mutton		Pork		Lard	
	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1946										
January	511.5	485.3	97.8	104.7	46.0	45.8	152.5	150.5	31.2	
February	527.9	500.6	87.7	97.4	46.1	45.6	151.2	149.0	33.5	
March	542.5	507.0	80.3	91.7	45.4	45.1	147.3	145.0	29.4	
April	554.4	512.6	84.5	95.4	43.8	43.2	148.9	147.1	27.4	
May	554.5	518.0	92.4	102.3	41.8	41.2	146.5	145.5	26.5	
June	548.9	507.2	101.5	114.0	39.0	39.3	156.0	153.0	30.2	
July	491.1	475.8	127.9	130.6	39.8	39.4	173.2	166.0	32.0	
August	481.6	464.0	132.5	136.2	41.4	41.1	150.2	146.8	33.4	
September	469.4	444.7	118.4	128.6	42.0	41.9	163.3	154.8	24.5	
October	458.8	443.7	134.8	138.8	42.3	41.5	148.8	147.5	25.1	
November	451.8	438.2	129.8	128.9	42.5	42.2	139.7	140.1	30.9	
December	476.7	459.7	111.7	115.6	43.8	43.6	142.2	133.5	32.9	
Year	499.1	477.2	110.8	116.5	42.9	42.5	150.0	148.0	30.3	28.0
1947										
January	496.3	478.3	111.6	112.9	44.4	44.3	141.9	140.3	37.8	34.3
February	510.7	490.2	99.6	104.4	45.3	45.3	142.9	139.5	35.7	32.7
March	509.8	489.7	92.9	95.6	46.7	46.2	142.7	139.8	36.4	32.9
April	516.4	493.2	92.3	94.5	46.1	45.3	144.6	141.9	35.6	32.5
May	510.7	489.6	102.2	105.6	44.6	44.4	146.9	143.5	37.7	35.3
June	499.1	479.4	114.4	115.5	41.4	41.2	152.7	148.9	40.3	37.3
July	490.6	471.1	123.2	124.5	41.7	41.6	159.8	155.6	43.0	39.3
August	471.5	454.3	127.5	126.8	41.7	41.1	161.0	155.7	39.7	35.9
September	466.5	449.6	133.9	131.0	41.4	40.9	142.1	140.7	32.0	29.2
October	461.0	443.6	131.9	128.1	41.5	40.9	136.0	136.3	28.1	26.3
November	461.1	442.6	126.0	123.7	41.6	41.0	138.3	138.1	28.2	26.4
December	475.4	456.7	109.9	109.4	42.9	42.4	139.0	138.2	32.7	30.1
Year	488.0	468.9	114.7	114.7	43.2	42.8	144.5	142.3	35.2	32.3
1948										
January	488.5	470.5	104.9	106.7	44.8	44.4	143.0	140.8	36.1	32.7
February	508.1	485.3	96.5	97.7	46.4	45.9	142.2	139.8	37.8	33.6
March	522.6	495.7	90.0	91.9	47.0	46.3	141.9	140.1	35.8	31.5
April	531.4	500.8	95.6	96.8	45.7	45.0	141.9	140.5	32.4	29.3
May	515.8	490.3	105.3	104.8	43.2	42.9	144.9	143.1	34.4	31.8
June	494.3	473.1	113.9	113.5	41.2	41.3	154.1	151.2	39.9	36.7
July	485.7	466.2	125.4	122.4	42.0	41.3	157.4	153.6	40.6	37.1
August	484.9	465.7	133.5	128.5	42.5	42.0	152.9	149.9	37.2	34.0
September	486.0	466.5	134.9	128.0	42.5	42.1	140.4	139.9	30.8	28.3
October	477.1	460.5	130.3	124.9	41.7	41.3	136.5	136.7	29.5	27.7
November	487.4	467.7	126.6	121.6	43.0	42.4	138.9	138.8	32.5	30.8
December	507.6	487.0	118.4	114.3	44.1	43.5	140.1	139.6	37.1	34.7
Year	497.7	476.8	115.2	112.4	43.6	43.1	143.8	142.2	35.4	32.4
1949										
January	531.4	508.4	111.8	109.3	45.1	44.8	142.1	140.4	39.7	36.7
February	541.8	517.3	100.5	100.8	45.6	45.1	138.4	136.7	38.5	35.3
March	553.8	525.8	93.1	94.1	45.6	45.5	137.9	136.1	37.1	34.4
April	557.6	529.8	95.9	97.8	45.7	44.5	135.9	134.3	35.4	33.2
May	559.5	529.8	103.6	106.1	44.3	44.3	139.5	137.6	36.8	34.2
June	536.7	512.0	113.0	114.7	41.9	41.5	149.1	145.9	38.8	36.4
July	530.3	506.3	124.7	123.0	42.2	41.6	156.9	152.5	42.5	39.3
August	523.7	499.4	135.6	132.2	43.1	43.1	146.8	143.4	37.6	34.8
September	512.7	490.7	135.1	130.0	43.0	42.3	133.8	132.8	31.7	30.0
October	508.9	488.1	133.4	126.7	43.5	43.5	128.2	128.1	32.1	30.5
November	509.9	489.0	129.1	123.6	45.4	44.6	133.8	133.1	33.3	31.7
December	525.2	502.8	119.4	115.7	46.5	46.0	136.3	134.6	36.0	34.2
Year	531.8	507.5	116.3	114.5	44.3	43.9	139.0	137.2	36.4	34.0
1950										
January	539.3	515.4	109.1	108.5	47.8	47.0	137.9	135.8	37.0	34.7
February	546.0	521.8	100.9	102.5	49.3	49.1	133.7	131.7	35.2	33.0
March	547.3	521.9	95.5	97.0	49.1	49.0	132.8	131.0	33.5	32.3
April	551.0	524.7	101.9	104.4	48.1	47.7	133.3	131.6	35.1	33.3
May	546.6	521.1	108.5	110.7	46.1	45.5	137.0	134.4	36.0	34.0
June	538.9	514.9	117.3	119.1	43.0	42.8	146.0	142.9	39.5	37.3
July	535.4	511.5	126.7	126.5	43.5	43.3	155.8	150.9	40.4	37.8
August	536.0	512.8	134.5	129.2	44.1	43.6	143.6	140.7	37.5	34.9
September	537.5	514.2	133.3	128.4	44.2	43.8	132.6	131.8	31.8	30.4
October	535.3	511.9	124.3	120.6	44.1	43.2	130.7	130.5	31.8	30.5
November	533.7	509.9	117.0	116.2	44.9	44.4	133.9	133.3	32.8	31.3
December	546.1	522.8	109.4	110.1	45.9	45.5	136.6	135.3	35.8	33.8
Year	540.8	516.7	114.7	114.2	45.7	45.3	137.0	135.3	35.4	33.5

Table A-14.-Average production of pork under Federal inspection per hog slaughtered and per 100 pounds live weight, by months, 1931 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average 2/
	Per hog slaughtered												
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1931	132.4	128.3	130.0	128.8	127.1	132.3	139.0	133.2	125.6	120.3	120.4	123.0	127.9
1932	124.9	123.0	123.7	126.3	124.2	122.4	131.8	133.8	131.7	126.4	124.2	123.7	125.9
1933	123.7	123.4	125.2	127.1	125.7	127.8	129.7	131.5	129.7	126.0	124.0	120.9	126.0
1934	122.4	121.4	123.1	122.9	121.7	123.5	129.1	131.3	128.1	124.4	121.1	117.3	123.4
1935	124.1	125.6	127.8	131.0	135.4	139.4	148.0	140.6	140.2	139.5	136.4	137.2	134.5
1936	135.4	129.4	134.2	134.6	131.7	138.9	143.2	140.1	131.1	125.1	123.1	125.9	131.8
1937	128.5	130.2	131.3	131.2	130.9	140.9	145.8	141.9	140.1	138.0	134.8	135.6	134.8
1938	138.0	132.8	132.9	132.8	135.8	145.9	151.6	141.7	128.7	124.6	130.7	134.9	135.3
1939	134.6	132.9	134.1	135.3	135.1	139.7	146.6	138.8	135.2	131.1	130.4	128.4	134.5
1940	130.1	128.7	129.0	129.7	131.1	136.2	141.1	137.3	134.3	131.8	129.4	127.6	131.6
1941	132.8	136.2	135.3	133.7	132.7	139.7	149.1	149.1	140.1	132.7	133.3	135.9	136.8
1942	133.4	134.0	132.0	135.6	138.5	144.1	150.4	154.5	145.6	140.3	144.0	140.8	140.6
1943	146.4	137.5	151.3	150.6	144.3	151.4	157.3	158.0	155.3	139.7	137.1	136.9	147.1
1944	142.1	138.2	135.8	133.4	131.5	133.4	135.7	140.8	143.3	139.3	138.9	139.0	137.3
1945	144.0	147.5	151.4	154.3	157.1	161.8	173.0	176.4	173.3	168.1	156.6	146.7	156.4
1946	152.5	151.2	147.3	148.9	146.5	156.0	173.2	150.2	163.3	148.8	139.7	142.2	150.0
1947	141.9	142.9	142.7	144.6	146.9	152.7	159.8	161.0	142.1	136.0	138.3	139.0	144.5
1948	143.0	142.2	141.9	141.9	144.9	154.1	157.4	152.9	140.4	136.5	138.9	140.1	143.8
1949	142.1	138.4	137.9	135.9	139.5	149.1	156.9	146.8	133.8	128.2	133.8	136.3	139.0
1950	137.9	133.7	132.8	133.3	137.0	146.0	155.8	143.6	132.6	130.7	133.9	136.6	137.0
1951	136.4												
	Per 100 pounds live weight												
1931	56.2	54.8	55.0	54.8	54.1	54.1	54.0	54.1	54.8	54.8	55.6	55.5	54.9
1932	55.3	54.2	54.3	55.2	54.7	52.7	54.1	55.7	55.9	56.1	54.9	54.6	54.8
1933	54.1	54.6	55.0	54.8	54.2	54.0	53.6	54.2	54.7	55.1	55.7	55.0	54.6
1934	54.4	54.8	55.3	54.8	54.8	54.5	55.5	56.8	56.8	57.6	57.8	57.0	55.7
1935	58.4	58.4	58.4	58.6	59.1	59.2	60.4	59.4	60.0	60.5	60.3	60.1	59.4
1936	59.1	58.2	58.7	58.3	56.9	57.4	58.1	58.1	58.6	58.9	58.3	58.5	58.3
1937	59.1	59.4	59.8	60.3	59.3	59.6	59.4	59.6	60.3	61.2	59.9	59.2	59.8
1938	59.0	58.1	58.4	57.8	57.8	58.1	58.4	57.9	56.4	56.6	58.3	58.5	58.0
1939	57.2	57.7	58.4	58.3	57.3	56.8	57.3	56.4	57.6	57.7	57.2	55.3	57.2
1940	55.8	55.3	55.7	56.2	56.3	56.4	56.6	57.2	58.0	58.6	57.6	56.1	56.6
1941	57.0	57.3	56.8	56.4	55.4	56.4	56.6	57.1	57.2	56.7	57.1	56.8	56.7
1942	55.6	56.6	56.8	57.7	57.6	57.3	56.7	58.1	58.2	58.3	58.9	56.6	57.3
1943	58.0	58.5	59.9	59.3	56.3	58.2	57.4	57.1	59.2	57.6	57.6	56.0	57.8
1944	57.0	56.0	56.0	55.5	55.1	54.5	53.9	55.2	57.8	58.5	58.3	57.9	56.2
1945	59.0	59.9	60.3	60.0	59.4	58.7	58.2	58.0	58.7	60.8	59.6	57.6	59.1
1946	59.0	58.0	59.2	60.2	60.0	59.3	59.8	57.1	61.8	60.4	57.6	57.6	58.9
1947	55.7	56.7	56.3	56.8	56.4	55.9	55.5	56.8	57.5	58.6	59.1	57.4	56.9
1948	56.4	55.8	56.8	58.0	57.2	56.4	56.0	56.5	57.8	58.5	57.5	56.1	56.8
1949	55.7	55.4	56.1	56.3	56.0	56.1	55.7	56.1	57.2	56.3	56.6	56.1	56.1
1950	55.9	56.0	56.7	56.0	55.9	55.3	56.1	55.4	57.0	56.9	56.4	55.7	56.1
1951	54.6												

1/ Weight of pork excludes head bones and all carcass fat rendered into lard. These averages are smaller than reported dressed weight per hog minus lard per hog.
2/ Weighted by number slaughtered.
Computed from data in Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-15.- Average production of lard under Federal inspection per hog slaughtered and per 100 pounds live weight, by months 1931 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 2/
	Per hog slaughtered												
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1931	34.8	35.7	36.3	37.1	37.2	38.0	39.6	36.8	33.0	30.9	29.9	32.4	34.8
1932	34.2	35.9	35.6	34.9	35.1	37.7	37.0	34.7	32.6	31.2	34.1	35.8	34.9
1933	37.4	36.3	35.5	36.2	36.6	37.2	38.0	37.3	35.7	32.2	32.0	33.3	35.7
1934	35.1	33.9	32.9	33.2	32.7	33.1	32.3	29.7	26.8	25.0	25.3	26.3	30.5
1935	25.8	25.5	25.9	26.6	27.1	27.0	26.8	24.9	23.8	22.4	24.0	25.8	25.5
1936	28.2	28.8	28.9	30.2	31.3	32.0	30.9	28.6	24.9	23.1	24.1	25.4	27.6
1937	24.7	24.4	24.4	23.6	25.1	24.8	25.8	22.7	20.4	20.9	23.4	26.7	24.0
1938	28.4	28.4	28.3	29.6	30.7	31.1	31.3	29.5	27.5	26.4	26.2	28.8	28.6
1939	31.1	29.8	29.8	29.3	31.0	32.6	33.8	32.6	29.6	28.1	29.0	32.9	30.8
1940	33.4	33.0	32.8	31.5	31.4	31.3	32.4	29.8	26.7	25.7	26.9	30.1	30.4
1941	30.8	31.7	33.4	33.1	34.8	34.8	36.2	35.2	31.7	30.7	31.1	33.1	32.9
1942	35.0	33.1	32.0	30.3	31.3	33.2	35.9	33.2	30.9	28.5	29.0	32.2	32.1
1943	33.0	31.8	29.3	29.8	33.2	33.9	37.0	37.2	33.9	30.3	30.3	34.4	32.9
1944	34.0	35.2	34.8	35.4	36.3	38.1	39.5	37.1	31.7	28.5	29.2	30.4	34.4
1945	29.9	28.2	28.9	30.6	32.2	35.0	38.3	39.4	35.6	29.7	30.2	32.7	32.1
1946	31.2	33.5	29.4	27.4	26.5	30.2	32.0	33.4	24.5	25.1	30.9	32.9	30.3
1947	37.8	35.7	36.4	35.6	37.7	40.3	43.0	39.7	32.0	28.1	28.2	32.7	35.2
1948	36.1	37.8	35.8	32.4	34.4	39.9	40.6	37.2	30.8	29.5	32.5	37.1	35.4
1949	39.7	38.5	37.1	35.4	36.8	38.8	42.5	37.6	31.7	32.1	33.3	36.0	36.4
1950	37.0	35.2	33.5	35.1	36.0	39.5	40.4	37.5	31.8	31.8	32.8	35.8	35.4
1951	38.0												
	Per 100 pounds live weight												
1931	14.8	15.3	15.4	15.8	15.8	15.5	15.4	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.8	14.6	15.0
1932	15.1	15.8	15.6	15.2	15.4	16.2	15.2	14.4	13.8	13.8	15.1	15.8	15.2
1933	16.4	16.0	15.6	15.6	15.8	15.7	15.7	15.4	15.1	14.1	14.4	15.1	15.4
1934	15.6	15.3	14.8	14.8	14.7	14.6	13.9	12.8	11.9	11.6	12.1	12.8	13.8
1935	12.1	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.8	11.4	10.9	10.5	10.2	9.7	10.6	11.3	11.2
1936	12.3	12.9	12.7	13.1	13.5	13.2	12.5	11.9	11.1	10.9	11.4	11.8	12.2
1937	11.4	11.1	11.1	10.8	11.4	10.5	10.5	9.6	8.8	9.3	10.4	11.7	10.6
1938	12.2	12.4	12.4	12.9	13.1	12.4	12.0	12.1	12.1	12.0	11.7	12.5	12.3
1939	13.2	12.9	13.0	12.6	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	12.6	12.4	12.7	14.2	13.1
1940	14.3	14.2	14.2	13.6	13.5	13.0	13.0	12.4	11.5	11.4	12.0	13.2	13.1
1941	13.2	13.3	14.0	14.0	14.6	14.0	13.7	13.5	12.9	13.1	13.3	13.8	13.6
1942	14.6	14.0	13.8	12.9	13.0	13.2	13.5	12.5	12.3	11.8	11.9	13.0	13.1
1943	13.1	12.6	11.6	11.7	13.0	13.0	13.5	13.4	12.9	12.4	12.7	14.1	12.9
1944	13.6	14.2	14.4	14.7	15.2	15.6	15.7	14.5	12.8	12.0	12.2	12.7	14.1
1945	12.2	11.4	11.5	11.9	12.2	12.7	12.9	12.9	12.1	10.7	11.5	12.9	12.1
1946	12.1	12.9	11.8	11.1	10.8	11.5	11.1	12.7	9.3	10.2	12.7	13.3	11.9
1947	14.8	14.2	14.4	14.0	14.5	14.7	14.9	14.0	12.9	12.1	12.0	13.5	13.8
1948	14.2	14.8	14.3	13.3	13.6	14.6	14.4	13.8	12.7	12.6	13.5	14.9	14.0
1949	15.5	15.4	15.1	14.7	15.1	14.6	15.1	14.4	13.5	14.1	14.1	14.8	14.7
1950	15.0	14.7	14.3	14.8	14.7	15.0	14.5	14.5	13.7	13.8	13.8	14.6	14.5
1951	15.2												

1/ Rendered lard including rendered pork fat. Lard production data beginning January 1937 are quantities rendered in Federally inspected plants, as reported by Meat Inspection Division, Bureau of Animal Industry. Data for earlier years are estimated. 2/ Weighted by number slaughtered.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-16.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1930-49

Year	Live weight of mktgs. 1/			Meat animal mktgs., Index no., 1935-39=100	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/				Gross income 2/ 3/			
	Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs		Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	All meat animals	Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	All meat animals
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1930	14,653	2,206	12,221	---	1,184	162	1,135	2,481	1,204	163	1,369	2,736
1931	14,438	2,505	12,801	---	838	130	774	1,742	854	132	950	1,936
1932	13,960	2,222	12,505	---	621	93	445	1,159	635	95	557	1,287
1933	15,165	2,226	13,282	---	599	105	524	1,228	614	107	631	1,352
1934	20,350	2,555	11,878	---	813	132	520	1,465	828	134	646	1,608
1935	17,037	2,316	7,330	88	1,062	152	682	1,896	1,084	155	890	2,129
1936	18,318	2,314	9,973	104	1,114	166	991	2,271	1,134	168	1,234	2,536
1937	17,051	2,321	9,146	96	1,239	186	925	2,350	1,261	188	1,161	2,610
1938	17,057	2,460	10,638	102	1,162	157	870	2,189	1,184	159	1,065	2,408
1939	17,385	2,431	12,327	110	1,290	172	810	2,272	1,312	174	981	2,467
1940	17,529	2,448	14,837	118	1,376	180	838	2,392	1,400	182	984	2,566
1941	18,628	2,563	13,765	119	1,705	226	1,302	3,233	1,732	229	1,518	3,479
1942	20,472	2,925	16,300	132	2,263	306	2,198	4,767	2,300	309	2,507	5,116
1943	20,866	3,042	20,748	152	2,562	342	2,929	5,833	2,606	346	3,302	6,254
1944	23,117	2,801	20,833	159	2,604	300	2,801	5,705	2,652	304	3,134	6,090
1945	26,839	2,835	15,738	149	3,290	319	2,298	5,907	3,346	323	2,674	6,343
1946	24,964	2,673	16,233	146	3,722	362	2,961	7,045	3,793	366	3,449	7,608
1947	25,902	2,274	16,015	147	4,932	403	4,005	9,340	5,017	408	4,635	10,060
1948	22,856	2,087	15,471	135	5,231	413	3,715	9,360	5,326	419	4,307	10,052
1949	23,430	1,790	17,237	139	4,814	355	3,225	8,395	4,896	360	3,657	8,913

1/ Excludes interfarm sales.
2/ Does not include Government payments.
3/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.
For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 29.

Table A-17.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals by classes, and index numbers of prices received for meat animals, United States, by months, 1935 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Wt. av. 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
							Beef cattle						
1935	5.17	5.93	6.57	6.94	7.10	6.80	6.27	6.18	6.08	5.81	5.67	5.95	6.04
1936	6.11	6.03	6.04	6.29	6.20	5.98	5.60	5.52	5.72	5.58	5.68	6.01	5.82
1937	6.60	6.63	7.02	7.26	7.46	7.48	7.67	7.40	7 36	6.79	6.33	6.15	7.00
1938	6.21	6.02	6.35	6.52	6.50	6.65	7.14	6.70	6.79	6.63	6.62	6.67	6.54
1939	6.97	7.12	7.26	7.35	7.33	7.05	6.91	6.74	7.36	7.25	7.14	7.11	7.14
1940	7.19	7.03	7.16	7.32	7.51	7.28	7.48	7.51	7.77	7.78	7.88	7.84	7.56
1941	8.37	8.31	8.27	8.55	8.51	8.61	8.73	9.04	9.32	9.14	8.82	9.34	8.82
1942	9.72	9.89	10.10	10.50	10.60	10.70	10.70	11.10	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.20	10.70
1943	11.76	12.32	12.76	13.00	12.88	12.70	12.40	12.00	11.70	11.10	10.60	10.90	11.90
1944	11.20	11.60	12.00	12.10	12.00	11.70	10.90	10.30	10.10	9.71	9.79	10.10	10.80
1945	11.00	11.60	12.50	13.10	13.40	13.40	13.00	12.40	11.80	11.50	11.30	11.50	12.10
1946	12.00	12.60	13.10	13.60	13.70	13.80	15.70	15.70	13.80	16.00	16.20	16.50	14.50
1947	16.70	17.00	18.00	18.30	18.80	19.30	19.50	19.00	19.00	18.30	18.20	19.50	18.50
1948	21.30	20.10	21.50	22.50	23.90	24.40	25.20	23.70	23.30	21.20	20.80	20.40	22.20
1949	20.20	18.90	20.70	21.00	21.10	20.90	20.00	19.40	19.70	19.20	18.90	19.00	19.80
1950	19.40	20.40	21.00	21.80	23.20	23.70	24.50	24.10	24.70	24.30	25.00	25.40	
1951	27.00	29.00											
							Veal calves						
1935	5.92	6.58	7.13	7.34	7.07	7.20	6.86	7.23	7.75	7.74	7.73	7.92	7.16
1936	8,03	8.15	7.42	7.56	7.48	7.43	6.92	6.76	7.16	7.12	6.93	7.45	7.20
1937	8,29	7.93	7.91	7.95	7.85	7.91	8.15	8.50	8.66	8.32	8.04	7.83	8.10
1938	8.16	8.05	8.06	7.91	7.54	7.61	7.79	7.81	8.11	8.07	8.06	7.93	7.90
1939	8.23	8.66	8.64	8.35	8.24	7.98	8.06	8.08	8.81	8.80	8.59	8.40	8.40
1940	8.91	8.77	8.82	8.65	8.93	8.51	8.62	8.61	9.07	9.12	9.11	9.07	8.83
1941	9.71	10.10	9.78	9.86	9.91	9.91	10.23	10.50	11.20	11.06	10.75	11.18	10.30
1942	12.03	11.85	12.08	12.15	12.39	12.31	12.43	12.74	12.80	12.80	12.82	12.94	12.30
1943	13.55	14.11	14.40	14.22	14.26	14.20	13.90	13.60	13.40	13.00	12.40	12.50	13.30
1944	12.70	13.00	13.20	13.10	13.20	13.10	12.70	12.40	12.40	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.40
1945	12.90	13.20	13.50	13.90	13.80	13.80	13.90	13.30	12.90	12.70	12.60	12.60	13.10
1946	13.30	13.70	13.90	14.30	14.40	14.80	16.30	15.90	15.20	16.20	16.70	17.00	15.30
1947	18.00	19.00	19.60	19.40	20.20	20.90	20.80	20.70	21.40	21.00	21.10	21.90	20.40
1948	23.80	22.50	23.10	23.90	25.00	25.20	26.40	25.90	25.50	23.80	23.80	24.10	24.40
1949	24.70	23.80	24.20	24.40	23.70	23.30	22.10	22.00	21.90	21.70	21.70	22.00	22.70
1950	23.30	24.60	24.40	24.60	25.70	25.90	26.70	27.40	28.00	27.50	28.20	28.90	
1951	30.80	33.30											
							Hogs						
1935	7.05	7.36	8.46	8.17	8.23	8.66	8.72	10.64	10.58	9.71	8.57	8.80	8.65
1936	9.09	9.62	9.44	9.68	8.71	9.10	9.28	10.14	9.84	9.24	8.78	9.19	9.37
1937	9.58	9.38	9.38	9.21	9.62	10.24	10.99	11.77	10.83	9.92	8.26	7.55	9.50
1938	7.66	7.83	8.53	7.85	7.43	8.14	8.71	7.85	8.19	7.25	7.27	6.91	7.74
1939	6.97	7.30	7.14	6.59	6.34	5.91	5.96	5.30	6.88	6.50	5.82	4.97	6.23
1940	5.17	4.96	4.87	4.91	5.37	4.78	5.84	5.90	6.20	5.85	5.61	5.61	5.39
1941	7.47	7.29	7.16	8.16	8.31	9.12	10.32	10.48	11.24	10.13	9.70	10.32	9.09
1942	10.69	11.85	12.51	13.48	13.27	13.38	13.78	14.12	13.57	14.10	13.43	13.26	13.00
1943	14.07	14.63	14.67	14.34	13.89	13.60	13.20	13.70	14.10	14.00	12.90	12.80	13.70
1944	12.80	12.90	12.90	13.00	12.70	12.60	12.70	13.50	13.60	13.80	13.50	13.40	13.10
1945	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.20	14.20	14.00
1946	14.10	14.20	14.20	14.20	14.30	14.30	17.20	20.80	16.10	22.20	23.00	22.80	17.50
1947	21.90	24.30	26.50	23.90	22.20	22.10	22.00	23.60	26.70	27.10	24.30	25.20	24.10
1948	26.60	21.60	21.50	20.30	19.90	22.90	25.20	26.90	27.40	24.70	21.80	20.90	23.10
1949	19.60	19.30	20.00	18.30	17.90	18.80	18.60	19.40	19.80	17.60	15.60	14.80	18.10
1950	15.10	16.60	16.10	15.60	18.50	17.80	21.50	21.60	21.10	19.20	17.80	17.70	
1951	20.00	22.00											

- Continued

Table A-17.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals by classes, and index numbers of prices received for meat animals, United States, by months, 1935 to date-Continued

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Wt. av. 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
							Sheep						
1935	3.35	3.80	3.84	3.81	3.66	3.60	3.45	3.52	3.74	3.79	3.88	4.18	3.75
1936	4.33	4.28	4.36	4.47	4.31	4.01	3.93	3.70	3.62	3.52	3.59	3.85	3.77
1937	4.25	4.44	4.79	4.95	4.87	4.49	4.50	4.51	4.35	4.27	3.90	3.83	4.52
1938	3.70	3.65	4.03	3.94	3.64	4.43	3.48	3.42	3.38	3.38	3.57	3.70	3.58
1939	3.90	4.09	4.03	4.25	3.98	3.72	3.72	3.61	3.84	3.95	3.85	3.80	3.90
1940	3.95	4.02	4.37	4.27	4.13	3.91	3.69	3.66	3.76	3.82	4.01	4.10	3.95
1941	4.44	4.65	4.86	5.20	4.97	4.69	4.69	5.03	5.36	5.15	5.13	5.24	5.06
1942	5.52	5.71	5.85	6.03	6.03	5.60	5.46	5.52	5.50	5.44	5.48	5.92	5.80
1943	6.39	7.01	7.27	7.35	7.31	7.14	6.84	6.53	6.39	6.08	5.81	5.94	6.57
1944	6.11	6.57	6.80	6.97	6.74	6.59	6.09	5.77	5.52	5.61	5.61	5.83	6.01
1945	6.18	6.56	6.87	7.17	6.99	6.82	6.83	6.39	5.89	5.79	5.86	5.98	6.38
1946	6.34	6.62	6.87	7.01	7.06	7.23	8.14	7.14	7.52	8.43	7.70	7.55	7.48
1947	7.64	7.78	8.43	8.57	8.73	8.36	8.59	8.55	8.64	8.42	8.63	8.62	8.41
1948	9.32	9.31	9.44	9.48	10.50	10.30	10.20	10.20	9.67	9.07	8.93	8.81	9.66
1949	9.10	9.28	10.10	10.80	10.60	9.92	9.27	8.78	8.61	8.88	8.86	9.20	9.29
1950	9.64	10.20	11.00	11.10	11.00	10.30	10.40	10.90	11.70	12.80	13.20	13.70	
1951	15.20	17.70											
							Lambs						
1935	6.77	6.98	6.99	6.92	6.95	6.88	6.54	6.71	7.45	7.58	7.87	8.36	7.28
1936	8.53	8.55	8.36	8.69	8.85	8.70	8.21	7.87	7.67	7.50	7.44	7.26	8.05
1937	8.14	8.37	9.21	9.61	9.61	9.32	8.80	8.89	8.83	8.64	8.09	7.69	8.87
1938	7.39	6.77	7.55	7.40	7.10	7.16	7.17	6.87	6.76	6.65	7.06	7.31	7.05
1939	7.58	7.63	7.70	8.18	8.37	7.91	7.64	7.21	7.84	7.86	7.74	7.62	7.70
1940	7.79	7.84	8.31	8.46	8.59	8.47	8.17	7.81	7.82	7.86	8.02	8.09	8.10
1941	8.56	8.80	9.12	9.37	9.34	9.49	9.47	9.56	10.09	9.83	9.70	10.13	9.58
1942	10.56	10.69	10.62	10.85	11.60	11.98	11.81	12.05	11.90	11.83	12.04	12.49	11.74
1943	13.03	13.76	13.97	13.87	13.82	13.50	13.30	12.80	12.50	12.20	11.90	12.10	13.00
1944	12.50	13.20	13.50	13.60	13.40	13.10	12.60	12.20	12.10	12.10	12.10	12.30	12.50
1945	12.90	13.50	13.80	13.90	13.60	13.40	13.40	12.90	12.50	12.50	12.70	12.80	13.10
1946	12.90	13.40	13.70	14.00	14.10	14.30	15.90	16.40	15.70	17.40	18.50	18.70	15.60
1947	19.10	19.60	20.30	19.80	19.90	20.90	20.90	20.90	21.50	20.30	20.80	21.30	20.50
1948	22.20	20.80	20.10	21.20	23.30	24.90	26.10	24.80	23.30	21.90	21.90	21.80	22.80
1949	22.00	21.70	23.80	25.80	25.30	24.30	22.80	21.20	21.60	21.50	21.40	21.00	22.40
1950	21.60	22.80	23.70	23.80	24.60	24.80	24.60	24.90	25.60	25.80	26.70	27.40	
1951	30.00	33.30											
						Index numbers of prices received for meat animals January 1910-December 1914=100 2/							
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1935	95	104	116	117	119	119	115	126	126	119	111	116	115
1936	119	122	120	124	117	117	115	119	118	114	111	117	118
1937	125	124	128	130	134	137	143	146	140	129	115	109	130
1938	110	109	116	113	110	115	123	114	117	110	110	109	113
1939	112	116	116	113	112	106	105	100	115	112	107	101	110
1940	104	101	102	104	108	102	110	110	115	113	112	112	108
1941	128	127	126	135	136	141	150	153	161	153	147	156	143
1942	162	171	177	186	186	188	190	196	192	195	191	192	186
1943	203	212	216	216	212	208	203	202	202	196	184	186	203
1944	189	194	198	199	196	193	186	186	185	183	182	184	190
1945	194	201	209	215	217	216	214	210	205	202	202	203	207
1946	208	214	219	223	225	226	258	279	235	292	299	301	248
1947	298	317	339	325	320	324	325	331	351	346	329	346	329
1948	371	329	339	342	354	377	400	396	394	359	338	330	361
1949	323	309	327	324	319	323	316	310	319	301	286	280	311
1950	286	306	308	312	342	342	371	369	372	358	357	360	340
1951	391	425											

1/ Annual State averages weighted by shipments and local slaughter. 2/ Includes production payments on beef cattle, sheep and lambs, 1945-46. Year averages are unweighted.

Table A-18.- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of cattle and calves, 1932 to date

Year	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Prime 1/	Chicago: Choice 2/	Chicago: Good 3/	Chicago: Commercial 3/	Chicago: Utility 4/	Chicago: All grades	Omaha, all grades	Sioux City, all grades	Cows, Chicago 5/: Utility 6/	Cows, Chicago 5/: Canner and Cutter 7/	Vealers, Chicago, Good and Choice
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1932	8.21	7.23	5.98		4.99	6.70	---	---	---	2.07	6.21
1933	6.12	5.56	4.91		4.08	5.42	---	---	---	2.01	5.88
1934	7.84	6.94	5.53		4.29	6.76	---	---	---	2.05	6.10
1935	12.32	10.79	8.80		6.73	10.26	---	---	---	3.78	8.88
1936	9.97	8.82	7.85		6.58	8.82	---	---	---	4.04	9.30
1937	14.79	11.79	9.19		7.51	11.47	---	---	---	4.54	10.07
1938	10.71	9.14	7.88		6.77	9.39	---	---	5.54	4.63	9.52
1939	10.48	9.81	8.77		7.51	9.75	---	---	5.70	4.95	10.07
1940	11.86	10.48	8.84		7.51	10.43	---	---	5.42	4.90	10.61
1941	12.23	11.36	10.02		8.64	11.33	---	---	6.51	5.95	12.18
1942	15.19	13.90	12.22		10.40	13.79	---	---	8.35	7.60	14.48
1943	16.23	15.34	14.01		11.66	15.30	---	---	9.51	8.52	15.18
1944	17.05	15.73	13.87		11.25	15.44	---	---	8.68	7.54	14.86
1945	17.30	16.00	14.12		11.73	16.18	---	---	9.71	8.51	15.12
1946	20.24	19.32	17.36		13.75	19.16	---	---	10.52	9.36	16.87
1947	30.64	26.22	21.76		18.04	25.83	---	---	12.93	11.82	24.98
1948	35.24	30.96	26.31		22.16	30.88	---	---	18.01	16.58	29.02
1949	28.65	26.07	23.17		19.77	25.80	24.23	24.41	15.41	14.38	27.64
1950	32.43	29.68	26.08		22.86	29.35	27.88	27.98	19.03	16.48	31.08

1/ 1951 grade name. Through 1950, called Prime and Choice. 2/ 1951 grade name. Through 1950, called Good. 3/ 1951 grade name. Through 1950, the present Good and Commercial were the single Medium grade. 4/ 1951 grade name. Through 1950, called Common. 5/ Prices for cows of Good grade as used through 1950 may be found in this Situation, February 1950, page 42. The old Good grade is now a part of the Commercial grade, which includes also the upper half of the old Medium grade. 6/ 1951 grade name. Previous name was Common. However, data shown for July 1939 through 1949 are as reported for Cutter and Common. 7/ From July 1939 through 1949, average of prices for Cutter and Common and for Canner.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-19.- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of hogs and sheep, 1931 to date

Year	Barrows and gilts, Chicago: 160-180 pounds	180-200 pounds	200-220 pounds	220-250 pounds	250-290 pounds	290-350 pounds	All weights	Barrows and gilts, 7 markets 1/	Sows, Chicago	Lambs: Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago 2/	Lambs: Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha 3/	Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1931	6.64	6.68	6.65	6.51	6.29	5.99	---	---	5.26	7.77	6.01	3.00
1932	4.05	4.11	4.08	4.00	3.88	3.71	---	---	3.25	6.11	4.81	2.55
1933	4.08	4.18	4.20	4.16	4.05	3.88	---	---	3.17	6.63	5.68	2.57
1934	4.71	4.93	5.05	5.09	5.07	4.99	---	---	4.06	7.89	6.43	3.15
1935	9.55	9.70	9.78	9.78	9.67	9.50	---	---	8.34	8.85	7.69	4.04
1936	10.12	10.27	10.35	10.34	10.19	9.96	---	---	8.70	9.86	8.22	4.20
1937	10.54	10.65	10.70	10.67	10.54	10.35	---	---	9.98	10.59	9.10	4.68
1938	8.54	8.62	8.64	8.56	8.36	8.11	8.27	8.13	7.34	8.39	7.39	3.82
1939	6.94	7.06	7.08	4/ 7.04	4/ 6.88	4/ 6.62	6.81	6.62	5.67	9.26	8.21	4.03
1940	5.71	5.95	6.03	5/ 6.03	6/ 5.93	7/ 5.78	5.80	5.62	5.31	9.65	8.53	4.18
1941	9.59	9.79	9.85	5/ 9.84	6/ 9.73	7/ 9.59	9.47	9.39	9.34	11.19	10.27	5.43
1942	13.63	13.90	13.99	5/ 13.99	6/ 13.95	7/ 13.90	13.69	13.54	13.73	13.81	12.02	6.60
1943	14.17	14.49	14.66	5/ 14.66	6/ 14.62	7/ 14.56	14.49	14.20	13.71	14.95	13.22	7.44
1944	13.57	13.98	14.14	5/ 14.14	6/ 13.94	7/ 13.70	13.77	13.53	12.75	15.22	12.70	6.89
1945	14.74	14.76	14.76	5/ 14.76	6/ 14.76	7/ 14.76	14.75	14.56	13.99	15.48	14.17	7.69
1946	17.68	17.93	17.97	5/ 17.96	6/ 17.94	7/ 17.88	18.42	17.85	18.31	18.65	16.46	8.25
1947	25.75	26.23	26.32	5/ 26.24	6/ 25.91	7/ 25.29	25.21	25.16	21.88	23.59	20.76	9.17
1948	25.14	25.55	25.61	5/ 25.40	6/ 24.77	7/ 23.87	23.27	23.35	22.58	25.96	22.36	11.59
1949	19.50	19.88	19.94	5/ 19.77	6/ 19.41	7/ 18.87	18.62	18.60	16.67	25.45	23.06	10.83
1950	18.91	19.46	19.59	5/ 19.51	6/ 19.25	7/ 18.84	18.39	18.42	17.72	27.30	27.52	12.67

1/ Chicago, St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul. 2/ Average of prices by months for market classes as reported in each month. Beginning 1932 reported classes change seasonally, comprising shorn lambs in about May, spring lambs in about June-September, and wooled lambs in all other months. 3/ Average prices for the months available. In some years, no prices are quoted for one to three months of few feeder shipments. 4/ Average of prices in January-June for market class of earlier years, and in July-December for class of later years. 5/ 220-240 pounds. 6/ 240-270 pounds. 7/ 270-300 pounds.

Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-20.- Average price per 100 pounds for stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City and Choice grade slaughter steers at Chicago, by months 1932 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 2/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
	Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/												
1932	5.06	5.04	5.62	5.29	4.93	4.54	4.97	5.23	4.82	4.47	4.72	4.12	4.88
1933	4.45	4.37	4.56	4.79	5.28	4.68	4.33	4.20	4.06	3.68	3.51	3.57	4.14
1934	4.00	4.55	4.55	4.69	4.75	4.08	3.71	3.76	4.05	3.92	3.98	4.07	4.07
1935	5.92	6.86	7.28	7.48	7.69	6.88	6.32	6.91	7.06	6.88	6.52	6.83	6.88
1936	7.07	6.95	7.51	7.23	7.12	6.56	5.34	5.53	5.81	6.01	6.32	6.46	6.39
1937	7.26	7.32	7.84	7.67	7.86	7.87	8.28	8.58	8.09	7.58	7.14	6.71	7.72
1938	6.98	7.04	7.60	7.55	7.72	7.51	7.80	7.54	7.42	7.47	7.77	8.00	7.54
1939	8.52	8.79	9.18	9.21	8.89	7.94	7.61	7.43	8.02	8.04	7.95	7.96	8.09
1940	8.07	8.12	8.97	9.06	9.18	8.05	8.09	8.53	8.41	8.52	8.81	8.76	8.53
1941	10.16	10.00	10.29	10.33	10.06	9.90	9.59	9.79	9.98	9.53	9.35	10.46	9.93
1942	10.57	10.69	11.47	11.93	12.00	11.83	11.09	12.05	11.64	11.83	12.62	12.24	11.75
1943	12.67	13.48	14.49	14.58	14.60	14.38	12.48	12.17	11.81	11.36	10.97	11.29	12.35
1944	11.60	12.95	13.06	12.76	12.84	11.65	10.93	11.50	11.34	11.50	11.96	11.49	11.78
1945	12.40	13.00	13.60	13.90	14.23	13.73	13.54	13.08	12.25	12.62	13.19	13.41	13.07
1946	13.56	14.71	15.22	15.86	15.82	15.72	15.53	15.51	15.99	16.42	16.30	17.63	15.87
1947	17.68	18.96	20.13	19.91	21.33	21.11	21.91	21.22	21.65	20.96	21.32	23.59	20.81
1948	26.31	24.15	25.57	26.62	27.60	26.96	28.25	27.40	25.42	24.41	24.52	23.26	25.54
1949	22.15	21.25	24.37	23.66	24.02	22.53	20.62	20.06	19.74	20.57	21.45	21.44	21.34
1950	22.94	24.13	25.32	25.79	27.19	27.44	27.48	26.90	26.90	26.92	28.46	29.45	26.67
1951	31.88												
	Choice grade beef steers for slaughter, Chicago 3/												
1932	7.99	7.47	7.06	7.11	6.44	7.01	8.13	8.13	8.21	7.21	6.56	5.56	7.23
1933	4.97	4.99	5.28	5.15	5.94	5.95	6.03	5.98	5.89	5.56	5.11	5.06	5.56
1934	5.20	5.37	5.97	6.62	6.95	7.31	7.12	7.39	8.20	7.52	7.50	8.04	6.94
1935	9.90	11.11	11.48	11.91	11.54	10.57	10.04	10.71	10.70	10.81	10.55	10.62	10.79
1936	10.28	9.47	9.31	8.83	8.07	7.80	8.16	8.41	8.86	9.10	9.95	10.38	8.82
1937	10.88	10.90	11.51	11.15	11.46	11.96	13.83	13.97	13.88	13.39	11.42	9.69	11.79
1938	8.29	7.91	8.49	8.49	8.69	9.15	9.98	9.69	10.03	10.01	9.99	10.16	9.14
1939	10.35	10.23	10.64	10.33	9.92	9.29	9.26	9.03	10.20	9.68	9.52	9.44	9.81
1940	9.44	9.53	9.86	10.01	9.92	9.57	10.29	10.82	11.15	11.72	11.73	11.86	10.48
1941	12.21	11.64	11.12	11.07	10.54	10.74	11.11	11.58	11.56	11.36	11.24	12.41	11.36
1942	12.54	12.47	13.03	13.83	13.65	13.12	13.75	14.87	14.63	15.07	15.40	14.90	13.90
1943	15.05	15.53	15.92	15.91	15.59	15.50	15.06	15.29	15.27	14.92	14.98	14.89	15.34
1944	15.00	15.12	15.23	15.33	15.73	16.23	16.35	16.42	16.26	16.56	16.27	15.62	15.73
1945	15.35	15.42	15.81	16.11	16.16	16.16	16.17	15.98	16.15	16.45	16.56	16.45	16.00
1946	16.51	16.36	16.37	16.46	16.55	16.98	19.86	20.73	19.58	24.97	25.63	25.28	19.32
1947	23.93	23.79	24.05	23.45	24.22	25.72	27.64	28.27	29.43	29.55	29.12	29.62	26.22
1948	30.36	27.10	26.92	28.17	30.91	34.85	36.44	36.02	34.49	32.24	30.68	27.82	30.96
1949	24.72	22.99	24.19	24.37	24.92	26.37	25.96	26.50	28.22	29.63	29.35	29.91	26.07
1950	28.14	27.19	27.33	27.66	29.19	29.99	30.62	29.97	30.32	30.42	31.24	32.98	29.68
1951	34.77												

1/ Average for all weights and grades. 2/ Weighted average. 3/ Grade name in use beginning 1951. Through 1950, data were originally reported as Good grade.
Compiled from Livestock Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-21.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers, parity price, and price received as percentage of parity, meat animals, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Beef cattle: Price received by farmers 2/	Beef cattle: Parity price 3/	Beef cattle: Price received as percentage of parity	Veal calves: Price received by farmers 2/	Veal calves: Parity price 3/	Veal calves: Price received as percentage of parity	Hogs: Price received by farmers 2/	Hogs: Parity price 3/	Hogs: Price received as percentage of parity	Lambs: Price received by farmers 2/	Lambs: Parity price 3/	Lambs: Price received as percentage of parity	Sheep: Price received by farmers 2/	Sheep: Parity price 3/	Sheep: Price received as percentage of parity
	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent
1930	7.87	8.62	91	9.87	10.70	92	8.87	11.60	77	8.28	9.35	88	5.13	7.19	71
1931	5.60	7.59	73	7.05	9.45	74	5.80	10.20	57	5.89	8.23	71	3.31	6.36	52
1932	4.27	6.72	64	5.02	8.37	60	3.39	9.01	38	4.56	7.29	62	2.31	5.61	41
1933	3.73	6.45	58	4.63	8.03	58	3.50	8.65	40	4.99	7.00	71	2.41	5.39	45
1934	4.10	6.94	59	4.89	8.64	57	4.22	9.31	45	6.09	7.53	81	2.98	5.79	52
1935	6.21	6.94	89	7.21	8.64	83	8.75	9.31	94	7.17	7.53	95	3.72	5.82	64
1936	5.90	6.88	86	7.37	8.57	86	9.34	9.23	101	8.14	7.47	109	4.00	5.74	70
1937	7.01	7.15	98	8.11	8.91	91	9.73	9.60	101	8.77	7.76	113	4.43	5.99	74
1938	6.57	6.83	96	7.92	8.50	93	7.80	9.16	85	7.10	7.41	96	3.61	5.71	63
1939	7.13	6.67	107	8.40	8.30	101	6.31	8.94	70	7.77	7.23	108	3.90	5.58	70
1940	7.48	6.72	111	8.85	8.37	105	5.42	9.01	60	8.10	7.29	111	3.97	5.64	70
1941	8.75	7.10	123	10.40	8.84	117	9.14	9.52	96	9.46	7.70	123	4.95	5.94	83
1942	10.60	8.08	132	12.40	10.10	124	13.10	10.80	121	11.50	8.76	132	5.67	6.74	84
1943	12.00	8.67	139	13.60	10.80	126	13.80	11.60	119	13.10	9.41	139	6.67	7.26	92
1944	11.00	9.11	121	12.70	11.30	112	13.10	12.20	108	12.70	9.88	129	6.18	7.59	82
1945	12.20	9.27	132	13.30	11.50	115	14.10	12.40	113	13.20	10.10	131	6.44	7.76	83
1946	14.40	10.40	139	15.10	12.90	117	17.30	13.90	124	15.40	11.20	137	7.30	8.65	84
1947	18.50	12.50	148	20.30	15.50	131	24.20	16.70	145	20.40	13.50	152	8.41	10.40	81
1948	22.40	13.40	167	24.40	16.70	146	23.30	18.00	129	22.70	14.60	156	9.60	11.20	85
1949	19.90	13.10	152	23.30	16.30	140	18.30	17.60	104	22.70	14.20	159	9.45	11.00	86
1950	23.10	17.40	133	26.30	19.50	135	18.20	19.20	95	24.70	19.10	129	11.30	10.70	105

1/ Parity prices for meat animals through 1949 are computed from the standard formula in effect prior to January 1, 1950. They are not affected by the revisions of January 1950. Parity prices for 1950 are effective parity as currently published.
2/ Unweighted average of prices, by months.
3/ Through 1949, based on index of prices paid, interest and taxes as revised January 1950.

Table A-22.- Hog-corn price ratio, Chicago and United States, by months, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 3/
Chicago, based on prices of barrows and gilts 2/													
1937									11.3	15.6	16.3	14.2	
1938	13.5	14.8	15.9	14.2	14.3	15.5	16.2	16.3	16.9	17.7	16.7	14.3	15.5
1939	14.3	16.3	15.8	14.4	13.3	12.9	13.9	13.8	14.4	14.6	12.2	9.7	13.8
1940	9.2	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.3	7.9	9.7	10.1	10.5	9.9	9.6	10.4	9.4
1941	12.3	12.5	11.7	12.2	12.6	13.4	15.1	15.0	15.5	15.3	14.5	14.2	13.7
1942	14.0	15.4	16.4	17.3	16.5	16.9	16.9	17.5	17.4	19.4	17.3	15.7	16.7
1943	15.4	15.9	15.5	14.7	13.6	13.1	13.0	13.5	14.0	13.8	12.9	11.7	13.9
1944	11.8	11.9	12.1	11.8	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.0	12.5	12.2
1945	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.7	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	13.6	12.5	12.6
1946	12.7	12.6	12.3	12.3	10.3	9.7	8.4	11.4	8.6	12.7	17.4	17.3	12.1
1947	17.2	18.4	15.8	13.4	12.7	11.1	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.7	10.4	10.2	12.9
1948	10.0	10.0	9.4	8.6	8.8	10.2	13.1	15.2	16.0	17.6	16.6	15.0	12.5
1949	13.8	15.6	15.3	13.6	13.9	15.3	15.3	16.4	15.8	15.7	13.9	11.9	14.2
1950	12.0	13.0	12.3	11.5	12.8	13.2	15.1	15.6	14.2	12.9	11.5	11.2	12.4
1951	12.0												
United States, based on prices received by farmers for all hogs													
1930	11.4	12.3	13.0	11.8	11.6	11.6	10.9	9.5	10.4	10.8	12.3	11.4	11.4
1931	11.7	11.5	12.0	11.9	11.1	10.4	11.4	12.2	12.4	13.7	11.5	10.4	11.7
1932	10.7	10.5	12.0	11.2	9.4	9.2	14.3	13.4	13.3	14.5	15.2	13.8	12.3
1933	13.6	15.1	15.6	11.3	10.1	9.9	7.2	7.7	8.0	10.8	9.0	6.6	10.4
1934	6.7	8.5	8.2	7.3	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.4	7.9	6.7	6.6	6.0	7.0
1935	8.3	8.7	10.2	9.6	9.7	10.4	10.6	13.2	13.6	13.5	15.2	16.6	11.6
1936	17.0	17.3	16.7	16.9	14.5	14.8	11.6	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.5	13.0
1937	9.5	9.1	8.9	7.7	7.9	8.7	9.3	11.5	11.5	16.8	17.2	15.6	11.1
1938	14.7	15.1	16.6	14.9	14.1	15.6	16.2	16.2	17.1	17.3	18.2	16.0	16.0
1939	15.5	16.6	16.1	14.5	13.1	11.8	12.5	11.6	12.2	13.7	12.4	9.9	13.3
1940	9.7	9.1	8.7	8.4	8.5	7.5	9.3	9.4	10.0	9.8	9.9	10.3	9.2
1941	13.3	13.0	12.5	13.2	12.6	13.4	14.8	15.0	15.9	15.6	15.2	15.4	14.2
1942	14.7	15.5	16.0	16.9	16.3	16.3	16.6	16.9	16.4	18.2	17.7	16.5	16.5
1943	16.0	16.2	15.5	14.3	13.4	12.8	12.2	12.6	12.9	13.1	12.3	11.5	13.6
1944	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.3	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.5	11.7	12.2	12.7	12.6	11.6
1945	12.9	13.2	13.1	13.2	13.1	12.7	12.6	12.4	12.6	12.5	12.8	13.0	12.8
1946	12.8	12.8	12.5	12.2	10.6	10.1	8.8	11.6	9.3	13.1	18.1	18.7	12.6
1947	18.1	19.8	17.7	14.7	14.0	11.9	10.9	10.8	11.1	12.2	11.1	10.6	13.6
1948	10.8	11.2	10.2	9.3	9.2	10.6	12.5	14.1	15.4	17.9	18.0	17.0	13.0
1949	15.7	17.2	16.9	15.0	14.7	15.5	14.9	16.4	17.1	16.1	15.3	13.1	15.7
1950	13.1	14.3	13.5	12.4	13.8	13.1	14.9	15.0	14.7	14.0	13.0	12.2	13.7
1951	13.0												

1/ Number of bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs. Chicago ratio not available before September 1937.
2/ Corn price is of No. 3 Yellow.
3/ Unweighted average of ratios for individual months.

Table A-23.- Index numbers of retail and wholesale prices of meat, United States, by months 1935 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
						Retail prices (1935-39=100)							
1935	88.4	92.6	98.3	98.8	102.0	103.1	102.5	106.2	107.9	106.4	101.2	101.0	100.7
1936	100.8	97.9	96.2	97.3	96.9	98.7	99.2	100.2	103.0	99.3	96.8	96.4	98.6
1937	99.3	97.8	99.2	102.1	104.3	107.5	114.0	117.8	116.7	112.8	105.5	99.8	106.4
1938	94.9	91.1	94.5	96.8	96.9	99.7	102.9	102.1	102.8	98.7	96.9	96.0	97.8
1939	96.1	96.6	96.7	97.7	97.8	96.7	97.5	95.4	101.9	97.1	94.2	91.1	96.6
1940	89.9	88.5	89.2	90.7	92.4	93.2	96.9	98.2	102.4	98.8	96.6	96.2	94.4
1941	99.8	101.3	101.0	101.7	102.5	105.7	108.1	110.9	115.7	112.6	109.3	109.7	106.5
1942	114.7	115.5	117.7	119.1	123.1	123.7	124.2	125.4	126.2	126.5	126.8	127.6	122.5
1943	128.2	128.9	129.3	129.8	130.2	130.3	120.1	119.1	118.7	119.0	118.4	118.4	124.2
1944	118.3	118.2	118.1	118.0	117.8	117.9	117.9	117.8	117.7	117.6	117.6	117.8	117.9
1945	117.9	117.9	117.9	118.0	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.0	118.0	118.0	118.0
1946	118.0	118.1	118.1	119.4	120.1	120.4	165.6	181.7	181.4	178.4	197.9	190.5	150.8
1947	192.1	191.7	204.1	198.7	200.6	216.1	219.7	229.8	241.9	234.9	223.6	223.2	214.7
1948	233.4	218.0	218.2	229.5	242.0	255.2	263.0	269.3	265.9	254.3	243.1	235.4	243.9
1949	228.2	212.3	222.5	228.5	228.0	239.3	234.4	237.3	242.0	233.1	226.4	220.0	229.3
1950	217.9	220.5	224.5	224.8	239.9	248.4	259.0	258.5	258.5	250.0	247.7	252.6	241.9
						Wholesale prices (1926=100)							
1939			82.6			79.5		78.1	89.3			71.7	
1940			71.6			76.5			89.1			83.9	
1941			88.7			95.7			107.8			102.6	
1942			112.4			121.8			123.9			122.5	
1943			125.4			118.9			112.5			112.2	
1944			112.5			112.5			113.0			113.5	
1945			113.7			113.8			113.8			113.8	
1946	113.8	113.8	115.9	116.6	116.6	116.6	184.7	192.7	136.5	178.0	210.6	199.2	147.5
1947	196.2	203.3	213.8	203.9	209.1	216.3	221.4	230.9	245.8	234.4	223.6	230.4	219.4
1948	248.0	230.7	240.6	251.5	262.3	265.1	277.2	279.6	277.4	255.0	240.0	230.8	254.9
1949	222.8	212.5	222.4	224.9	227.0	230.3	227.3	224.4	230.4	219.6	212.9	206.5	221.8
1950	208.3	216.3	213.6	214.9	234.0	241.4	260.1	258.3	259.5	240.8	240.5	251.9	236.6

1/ Wholesale meat price indexes are available only as shown. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-24.- Chicago wholesale price of steer beef and lamb carcasses and of composite pork products, and United States composite average retail prices for meats, 1930 to date

Year	Chicago wholesale price: Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 lb., per 100 lb. 1/	Chicago wholesale price: Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 lb., per 100 lb.	Composite hog products, including lard: 72.84 lb., fresh products: Value	Composite hog products, including lard: 72.84 lb., fresh products: Per 100 lb.	Composite hog products, including lard: 71.32 lb., fresh and cured products: Value	Composite hog products, including lard: 71.32 lb., fresh and cured products: Per 100 lb.	United States composite average retail price 2/: Beef (Choice grade), per lb. 1/	United States composite average retail price 2/: Lamb per pound	United States composite average retail price 2/: Pork, including lard, per pound	United States composite average retail price 2/: All meat products per pound 3/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930	---	19.58	10.88	14.94	13.55	19.00	35.2	33.9	25.2	31.0
1931	---	16.04	7.62	10.46	10.07	14.12	29.2	28.1	20.7	25.7
1932	---	12.99	4.79	6.58	6.55	9.18	24.2	21.7	14.7	20.0
1933	8.79	12.25	5.01	6.88	6.58	9.23	20.9	19.6	13.6	17.7
1934	10.38	14.44	7.72	10.60	9.17	12.86	22.7	23.4	17.4	20.6
1935	15.57	15.86	12.58	17.27	14.32	20.08	29.6	25.9	25.1	27.7
1936	13.21	17.00	11.29	15.50	13.23	18.55	27.8	27.1	23.5	26.3
1937	17.31	17.81	11.60	15.93	13.70	19.21	31.6	28.4	24.2	28.5
1938	14.39	15.74	9.55	13.11	11.50	16.12	27.9	26.4	21.1	25.1
1939	15.46	16.87	8.02	11.01	9.72	13.63	28.6	26.4	18.9	24.4
1940	16.11	16.95	6.84	9.39	8.32	11.67	28.7	26.1	16.5	23.3
1941	17.18	18.41	10.68	14.66	12.12	16.99	30.7	27.8	21.2	26.6
1942	19.98	22.94	14.06	19.30	15.98	22.41	34.1	32.4	26.2	30.9
1943	20.62	24.63	13.42	18.42	15.46	21.68	35.2	35.9	27.2	32.0
1944	19.88	23.68	12.74	17.49	14.69	20.60	33.4	35.1	25.6	30.4
1945	19.88	23.68	13.08	17.96	14.80	20.75	32.7	35.2	25.6	30.0
1946	27.81	31.08	17.92	24.60	20.37	28.56	41.8	42.1	33.4	38.5
1947	41.46	42.66	26.98	37.04	29.58	41.48	61.1	56.7	47.2	55.4
1948	50.03	49.00	26.51	36.39	29.94	41.98	73.7	64.3	47.5	62.0
1949	42.66	49.64	20.96	28.78	24.61	34.51	66.8	67.4	41.1	56.0
1950	47.09	4/51.46	20.54	28.20	23.83	33.41	73.5	69.6	40.6	59.1

1/ Grade as named beginning January 1951. Data originally published as Good grade.
2/ For data for 1913-29 see Livestock and Meat Situation, January 1950, pages 14-15. Derived from "market basket" data.
3/ Note that this is a composite including lard, and calculated for fixed quantities of each meat in all years.
4/ Price of lamb carcass, Good, 45-50 lb. used for four months.

Table A-25.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by years, 1920 to date

Year	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/		Disposable personal income per person 3/		Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
		Value	Index number, 1935-39=100	Value	Index number, 1935-39=100	
	Cents	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1920	33.8	39.50	135.7	645	126.5	6.1
1921	28.0	32.30	111.0	503	98.6	6.4
1922	26.9	31.90	109.6	533	104.5	6.0
1923	26.6	33.90	116.5	606	118.8	5.6
1924	26.7	34.00	116.8	601	117.8	5.7
1925	30.0	36.30	124.7	627	122.9	5.8
1926	31.1	36.90	126.8	641	125.7	5.8
1927	30.5	35.60	122.3	635	124.5	5.6
1928	31.5	36.10	124.1	644	126.3	5.6
1929	32.7	37.30	128.2	673	132.0	5.5
1930	30.8	34.60	118.9	595	116.7	5.8
1931	25.6	29.10	100.0	505	99.0	5.8
1932	19.5	22.30	76.6	381	74.7	5.9
1933	17.5	20.70	71.1	358	70.2	5.8
1934	20.9	25.90	89.0	406	79.6	6.4
1935	28.0	28.20	96.8	453	88.9	6.2
1936	26.7	29.80	102.3	513	100.7	5.8
1937	28.9	31.30	107.5	548	107.5	5.7
1938	25.5	27.90	95.8	501	98.3	5.6
1939	24.6	28.40	97.6	533	104.6	5.3
1940	22.9	28.40	97.6	570	111.8	5.0
1941	26.8	33.30	114.4	686	134.5	4.9
1942 4/	31.4	37.90	130.2	862	169.0	4.4
1943 4/	31.9	40.80	140.2	964	189.0	4.2
1944 4/	30.2	40.70	139.9	1,058	207.5	3.8
1945 4/	30.2	37.90	130.2	1,076	211.0	3.5
1946 4/	38.4	51.35	176.5	1,118	219.2	4.6
1947	56.2	75.34	258.9	1,170	229.4	6.4
1948	62.6	78.88	271.1	1,278	250.6	6.2
1949	56.8	70.74	243.1	1,249	244.9	5.7
1950	59.4	74.43	255.8	1,325	259.8	5.6

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts. Note that this weights the price for each meat in each year by the quantity consumed in that year, and that lard is excluded.
2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each meat consumed per civilian consumer.
3/ Computed from income data of U. S. Department of Commerce, 1929-49. Estimates up to 1928 by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.
4/ Data affected by wartime controls.
See *The Livestock and Meat Situation*, February 1950 for earlier data.

Table A-26.- Commercial exports and imports of meat, product weight, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Commercial exports: Beef and veal 2/	Commercial exports: Lamb and mutton	Commercial exports: Pork 3/	Commercial exports: Sausage	Imports for consumption: Beef and veal 2/	Imports for consumption: Lamb and mutton	Imports for consumption: Pork 4/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1930	21	2	277	5	64	5/	5
1931	21	1	160	4	22	5/	4
1932	13	5/	116	3	25	5/	6
1933	17	5/	142	4	44	5/	3
1934	22	1	151	4	48	5/	2
1935	13	1	89	3	86	5/	10
1936	14	5/	68	2	94	5/	42
1937	13	1	63	3	95	5/	75
1938	14	5/	96	3	82	5/	52
1939	15	5/	130	3	91	5/	41
1940	17	1	94	3	75	5/	6
1941	28	1	268	78	146	5/	12
1942	21	5	651	395	115	1	1
1943	41	124	1,091	397	114	1	8
1944	28	25	1,131	258	97	5/	5/
1945	94	10	505	92	70	5/	2
1946	425	11	282	60	18	5/	5/
1947	159	7	59	11	34	5/	5/
1948	15	2	29	4	208	3	1
1949	20	1	60	5	158	4	3
1950	17	5/	58	4	199	3	32

1/ Exports and imports of major meat products, in product weight as reported by the Department of Commerce. "Commercial exports" exclude shipments to territories, USDA exports and shipments (1941-49) and, in 1947-50, shipments for military-civilian feeding in U. S. occupied areas.
2/ Fresh beef and veal, pickled or cured, and canned beef.
3/ Fresh and canned, and hams, shoulders, bacon, Wiltshire sides, Cumberlands, and pickled pork.
4/ Fresh, pickled, salted and other pork, hams, shoulders, bacon and sausage.
5/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Compiled from records of United States Department of Commerce.

Table A-27.- Meat exports and shipments to territories, and imports, carcass weight equivalent, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Commercial exports and shipments to territories				Imports				
	Beef and veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	All meats	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	All meats
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1930	59	2	339	400	134	2	1	3	140
1931	58	2	224	284	52	1	2/	4	57
1932	32	1	176	209	63	2/	2/	6	69
1933	39	2	202	243	104	2/	---	3	107
1934	56	2	211	269	118	0	---	2	120
1935	53	2	136	191	201	2/	---	11	212
1936	54	2	118	174	226	2/	---	45	271
1937	51	2	114	167	227	2/	---	80	307
1938	53	2	152	207	200	2/	---	57	257
1939	52	2	192	246	219	2/	2/	45	264
1940	56	2	163	221	168	2/	2/	6	174
1941	56	6	111	173	257	2/	2/	12	269
1942	34	4	66	104	211	1	1	1	214
1943	29	3	38	70	225	1	7	8	235
1944	41	3	54	98	189	1	2/	2/	190
1945	37	5	34	76	127	1	2/	2	130
1946	38	3	75	116	19	1	2/	1	21
1947	192	12	107	311	64	1	2/	2/	65
1948	50	6	82	138	341	5	3	1	350
1949 3/	29	3	104	136	228	7	4	3	242
1950 3/ 4/	24	2	110	136	322	10	3	33	368
	Exports and shipments to territories by USDA								
1941	1	---	372	373					
1942	25	7	1,133	1,165					
1943	79	127	2,075	2,281					
1944	91	68	1,660	1,819					
1945	301	24	839	1,164					
1946	645	16	405	1,066					
1947	4	---	25	29					
1948	0	0	0	0					
1949	0	0	6	6					
1950	0	0	0	0					

1/ Carcass weight equivalent of all meat, including the meat content of minor meats and of mixed products. In 1947-50, exports exclude shipments for military-civilian feeding in U. S. occupied areas. Shipments to territories include shipments to all territories through 1948, but in 1949 and 1950 include only shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands.

2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

3/ Exports and shipments for 1949 and 1950 not strictly comparable with earlier years (see footnote 1).

4/ Preliminary.

Data for 1910-29 are in The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 38.

Table A-28.- Feed balance sheet, units of livestock production, and animal units fed, feeding year beginning October, 1939-50

Item	Unit	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Supply	Million					
Production	tons	95.8	98.6	105.1	120.8	112.1
Stocks beginning of crop year 1/	do.	20.7	22.8	23.1	18.5	17.8
Wheat and rye fed	do.	4.3	2.6	5.9	12.9	14.3
Other grains fed 2/	do.	.2	.2	.1	2.3	2.1
Byproduct feeds for feed	do.	14.9	16.3	16.6	18.0	18.2
Total supply	do.	135.9	140.5	150.8	172.5	164.5
Utilization						
Concentrates fed	do.	102.1	108.0	118.7	142.0	138.8
Other uses	do.	11.1	11.2	13.6	13.3	12.8
Total utilization	do.	113.2	119.2	132.3	155.3	151.6
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	do.	113.1	117.4	132.3	156.3	152.9
Stocks at end of crop year	do.	22.8	23.1	18.5	3/16.2	11.6
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Million	156.0	156.0	167.3	192.4	193.2
Units of livestock production	do.	153.4	155.3	170.0	193.5	191.3

Item	Unit	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 4/
Supply	Million							
Production	tons	116.7	114.4	124.3	95.4	138.2	125.9	125.
Stocks beginning of crop year 1/	do.	11.6	14.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.
Wheat and rye fed	do.	8.9	7.9	4.2	6.0	3.7	4.7	5.
Other grains fed 2/	do.	2.0	.2	.1	.1	.6	.7	1.
Byproduct feeds for feed	do.	18.9	17.7	19.4	19.0	20.1	20.6	20.
Total supply	do.	158.1	155.1	158.9	134.4	170.5	182.7	182.
Utilization								
Concentrates fed	do.	129.0	133.3	123.9	112.2	123.5	133.1	138.
Other uses	do.	15.2	13.3	19.3	13.6	17.7	17.2	20.
Total utilization	do.	144.2	146.6	143.2	125.8	141.2	150.3	158.
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	do.	143.2	144.2	145.0	126.5	139.7	151.5	158.
Stocks at end of crop year	do.	14.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	24.
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Million	173.7	167.8	161.4	155.7	162.7	168.9	173.
Units of livestock production	do.	176.4	174.8	169.6	165.0	171.4	176.5	182.

1/ Stocks in all positions of corn October 1, and oats and barley July 1. Beginning 1947 includes sorghum stocks. 2/ Imported grain fed. 3/ Exclusive of grain at interior mills, elevators and warehouses. 4/ Partly forecast.

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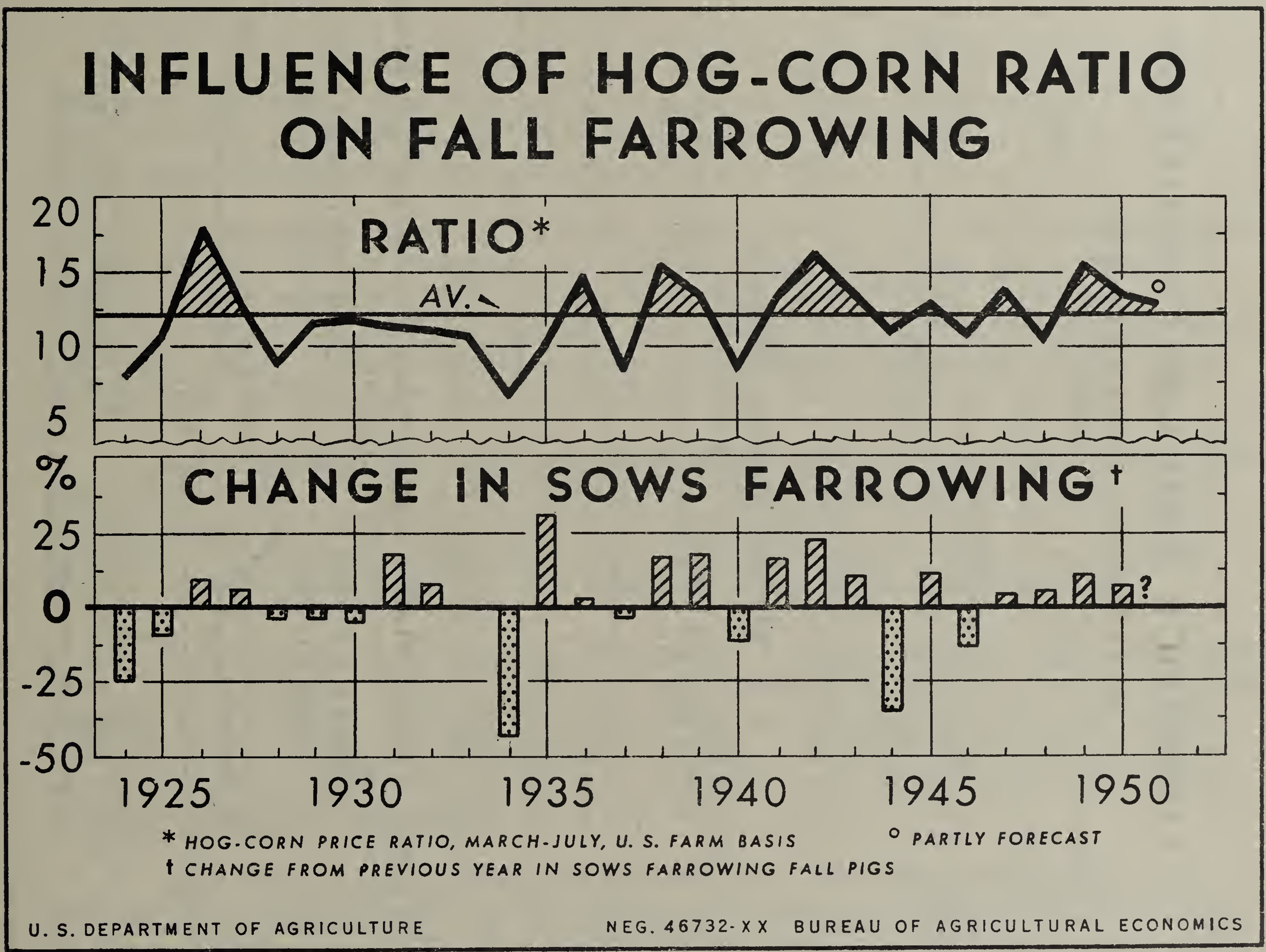
FOR RELEASE
APR. 11, P. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

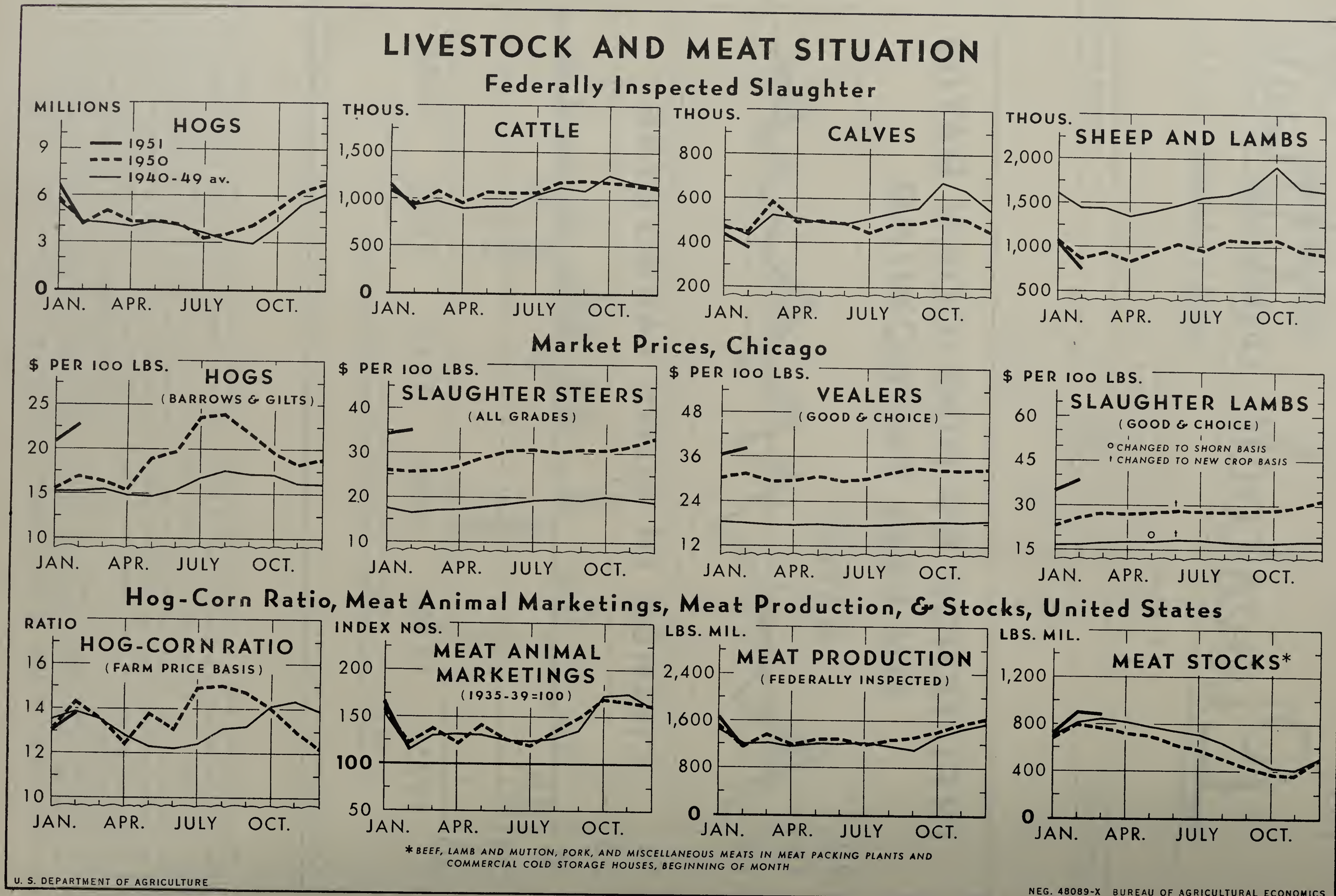
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-49 BAE MARCH 1951



There may be a small increase in the number of sows to farrow fall pigs even though the hog-corn price ratio is expected to be lower this spring than last. If slaughter weights next year are as heavy as this year, the supply of pork in the spring and summer of 1952 would be slightly larger than in 1951.

Farmers indicated their intention on March 1 to increase the 1951 corn acreage only 1.6 percent over 1950 and to plant smaller acreages of the other feed grains. However, intentions reports for the Corn Belt indicate an increase of 6 percent. If intentions, with respect to feed grain acreages, are carried out and yields by States are equal to the 1945-49 average, total production would be about 118 million tons, 6 percent below the 1950 production. The prospective carry-over of feed grains is also smaller. These two factors point to a fairly tight feed situation for the feeding year beginning October 1951.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
40
30
20
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
200
150
100
50
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
LBS. MIL.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
LBS. MIL.
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, March 28, 1951

SUMMARY

The March report of prospective plantings indicate that, with good yields, supplies of feed grains will be adequate to support large livestock production this year. However, increasing feed requirements may result in a tight feed situation in 1952. In view of this prospect, the Department -- in addition to setting 1951 feed grain production grades at a high level -- is urging farmers to conserve feed.

The prospects are that moderately more meat will be produced this year than in 1950. More meat animals were on farms last January 1 than a year earlier, particularly of breeding stock. Large calf, pig, and lamb crops seem assured, barring unfavorable weather.

The moderate increase in beef production in 1951 will be concentrated in the second half of the year. Supplies of both fed and grass cattle at that time are expected to be larger than a year earlier. Prospects for lamb and mutton in 1951 are closely associated with the proportion of sheep and lambs that will be withheld from slaughter for breeding stock. The indications now are that this proportion will be relatively large.

The 1951 fall pig crop may be slightly larger than in 1950, based on the expectation of a favorable hog-corn ratio in the next few months and the prospective increase in corn acreage in the Corn Belt. The gain for 1951 will likely be smaller than last year but should result in a larger supply of pork in the spring and summer of 1952 than this year.

The early spring lamb crop was about 2 percent larger this year than last. The increase largely reflects the increase in the proportion of ewes lambing before March and the larger number of breeding ewes in the south-eastern sheep producing States and in Texas. In the Pacific Coast States and in Arizona favorable weather has resulted in a relatively high number of lambs saved per 100 ewes.

Meat production increased in March from the unseasonally low production in February, and for the month as a whole, probably will be close to production a year earlier. Considerably more pork, but less beef, veal and lamb and mutton were produced this March than in March last year.

ERRATA in February Statistical Appendix are shown on pages 18 and 21 of this issue.

Marketings of fall-crop hogs increased seasonally during March and will provide the bulk of slaughter supplies in the next few months. The supply of barrows and gilts for slaughter this fall and winter will be determined largely by this year's spring pig crop, for which a 6 percent increase is indicated.

Effective March 19, the Office of Price Stabilization set up dollars-and-cents ceilings for cattle hides, kips and calfskins to be sold or delivered after March 31, 1951. The general level of hide prices established is, in the main, based on the average price at which such items sold during November 1950. Provision is made for variations in ceiling prices in line with normal price differences due to average weight, location, degree of cure or other factors.

Central market prices of all classes of meat animals except hogs advanced in March following a short period of declining prices late in February. Hog prices were relatively stable in March, $1.00-1.50 per 100 pounds below mid-February levels and well below the record prices of 1948. Except for the late February declines, prices of cattle, sheep and lambs have been increasing since early last fall and at the end of March were at record or near-record highs. Prices for the lower grades of cattle and for lambs have increased relatively more than for the better grades of steers or sheep.

Total wool production in 1950, shorn and pulled, was about the same as in 1949. The annual average price received by growers for shorn wool was 57.3 cents per pound, 7.9 cents above a year earlier. Wool prices are expected to continue at a high level during the current season.

Mohair production in 1950 was slightly smaller than the 1949 clip. The smaller number of goats and kids clipped more than offset an increase in the yield per animal. The average price of mohair rose sharply in 1950, averaging 75.9 cents for the year.

United States net imports of meat in 1950 were larger than in 1949, largely due to increased imports of beef and veal. Increased imports from Canada (mostly fresh and frozen) and from Argentina (canned) accounted for most of the gain. Exports of meat were very close to 1949 levels with increases in pork exports just about offsetting decreases in other meats.

United States foreign trade in meat is currently subject to fewer trade restrictions than during most of 1950. The Canadian Government has ended a three-year restriction on imports and exports of pork and pork products to and from the United States, and canned meats from Mexico are now permitted entry here for domestic consumption. The prospects of larger total imports of meat during 1951, however, depend largely on receipts of canned beef from South America, which last year reached record proportions.

Imports of cattle from Canada in 1950, our present main source of live animal imports, were 6 percent above a year earlier. Prospects are for live animal imports to be somewhat smaller for 1951. Importation of meat animals from Mexico is still prohibited. United States exports of live animals are small and consist largely of animals for breeding.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Planting Intentions For Corn Slightly Above Last Year's Acreage

The report of farmers' intentions as of March 1 indicated a planted acreage of 85.7 million acres this year compared with 84.4 acres actually planted last year. The Corn Belt (North Central) States planned to increase their corn acreage by 3.2 million acres or 5.9 percent. Increased plantings were planned in every State of this region except North Dakota. Declines in acres planted to corn are expected in other parts of the country, where some of the acreage planted last year will be diverted to wheat and other crops which were under acreage allotment in 1950.

Corn Production At Average Yields Would Be 3,050 Million Bushels

If the yield per acre by States on this indicated acreage should be the same as the 1945-49 average, 3,050 million bushels would be produced. However, with 1950 State yields per planted acre a total of 3,223 million bushels would be produced, or 3 percent more than in 1950.

The anticipated increase in livestock numbers this year will further increase the demand for feed grains in the 1951-52 season. Utilization of feed during 1950-51 is expected to reduce the carry-over of corn for grain next October to around 550-600 million bushels, which would mean a smaller corn supply for feeding next year unless 1951 corn yields are above last year, or the number of acres in corn is larger than now indicated. The availability of feed, therefore, could be a limiting factor in livestock production for the feeding year beginning next October.

Farmers may depart somewhat from their stated intentions both for crop plantings and livestock production. The size of the 1951 pig, calf and lamb crops will depend on a number of factors, and corn yields are even less predictable. It seems, though, that the hog producer may be justified in expecting corn prices to be close to the legal minimum ceiling (parity, as adjusted for grade, season and location) most of the year even with good corn yields. If yields are poor or if utilization is greater than anticipated, corn prices would exert considerable upward pressure on the minimum ceiling price.

Fewer Acres of Feeds Other Than Corn Indicated by Intentions

Smaller acreages are currently indicated for feed grains other than corn -- oats, barley and grain sorghums. The decline in oats acreage is rather general but more than two-thirds of the drop of nearly 2.5 million acres is in the North Central region. The acreage for barley is about 1.3 million acres less than in 1950 and for grain sorghums 4.0 million acres below last year. Hay acreage is indicated at virtually the same as in 1950 and should provide adequate supplies even with the expected increase in forage consuming animals.

No Acreage Allotments On Corn in 1951

In the long run, livestock production is closely associated with feed production, and hog production is definitely related to corn production. Last year, reductions in the corn acreage plus slightly lower yields resulted in a corn crop of about 3,131 million bushels. Total feed supplies for 1950-51 (the 1950 crop plus carry-over less net exports) were sufficiently large to encourage some increase in hog production and in cattle feeding, but because of the increased quantity of grain being fed this year the carry-over of corn next fall is expected to be considerably reduced. In view of the anticipated large demand for livestock feed next year and the desire to have a larger reserve supply of feed, corn will not be subject to acreage controls this year. Last year producers in the commercial corn area were not eligible for price supports on corn if they exceeded their acreage allotments.

1951 Fall Pig Crop Likely To Be Larger Than in 1950

The fall pig crop has increased each year since the recent low point of 1946. The 1950 fall crop of 40,657,000 pigs was 9 percent larger than the 1949 fall crop and 33 percent above 1946. Present prospects are that the fall crop may again increase in 1951 but that the gain will be considerably smaller than the average gain during this four-year period. 1/

This prediction for a larger fall pig crop is based on an estimate of the hog-corn price relationship from March through July, the breeding season for the fall pig crop. In every year since 1924 a March-July hog-corn ratio above 12.0 was followed by an increase in number of sows farrowing the following fall. (See cover chart and table 1.) The converse is not as positive a relationship -- a hog-corn ratio below 12.0 has resulted in a decrease in sows farrowing only two-thirds of the time. Most of these exceptions occurred during the early 1930's. The United States ratio on March 15 was 13.2. The farm price of corn at $1.60 was 92 percent of effective parity. In view of the strong demand for feed and the fact that the legal minimum ceiling price for corn is the parity price a further seasonal advance in corn prices may occur during the next few months. With meat prices under control, hog prices probably will not change much from present levels. Hence, the hog-corn ratio during March-July will probably average a little below the March 15 level, but may still be sufficiently favorable to encourage a moderate increase in sows bred to farrow fall pigs.

1/ Farmers' intentions concerning the number of sows to farrow in the fall will be reported June 21. The first estimate of the fall pig crop will not be released until December 20.

Table 1.- Array of hog-corn price ratios during March-July, and corresponding changes in number of sows farrowing fall pigs, 1924-51

Year	Hog-corn ratio, March-July 1/ United States	Hog-corn ratio, March-July 1/ North Central States	Number of sows farrowing in the fall	Increase or decrease from previous year in sows farrowing: Number	Increase or decrease from previous year in sows farrowing: Percent
			1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
1926	18.0	20.3	4,330	391	9.9
1942	16.4	17.6	6,840	1,305	23.6
1949	15.4	15.9	5,713	555	10.8
1938	15.5	17.3	4,517	672	17.5
1936	14.9	16.5	3,957	100	2.6
1947	13.8	14.2	4,907	194	4.1
1939	13.6	15.8	5,352	835	18.5
1943	13.6	14.6	7,565	725	10.6
1950 2/	13.5	13.9	6,117	404	7.1
1941	13.3	14.1	5,535	772	16.2
1945	12.9	14.0	5,426	544	11.1
1951 3/	12.9	---	---	---	---
1927	12.8	13.5	4,609	279	6.4
1930	11.8	13.2	4,073	-191	-4.5
1929	11.6	12.7	4,264	-165	-3.7
1931	11.4	13.0	4,797	724	17.8
1932	11.2	12.6	5,179	382	8.0
1944	11.1	12.3	4,882	-2,683	-35.5
1933	10.8	12.9	5,207	28	0.5
1925	10.8	11.8	3,939	-405	-9.3
1946	10.8	11.4	4,713	-713	-13.1
1948	10.4	10.4	5,158	251	5.1
1935	10.1	10.8	3,857	921	31.4
1928	8.8	9.4	4,429	-180	-3.9
1940	8.5	9.2	4,763	-589	-11.0
1937	8.5	8.6	3,845	-112	-2.8
1924	8.0	8.9	4,344	-1,448	-25.0
1934	6.9	8.0	2,936	-2,271	-43.6

1/ March-July is regarded as the breeding season for the fall pig crop.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Calculated from price received by farmers for hogs in February 1951 and parity price for corn in February. Actual prices received will depend on market trend and maybe by controls, but will probably be near 12.8 or 12.9.

More Early Spring Lambs This Year

The early lamb crop in the principal early lamb producing States is estimated to be about 2 percent larger than last year. This increase is the second in a row following a decline of eight years. In the Pacific Northwest and in California and Arizona weather and feed conditions have been very favorable for early lambing. In Texas and in the southeastern States the increase in early lambs reflects the increase in number of breeding ewes. The number of lambs raised per 100 ewes is less than last year in the southeast because of the cold, unfavorable weather in January and February.

The total increase in breeding ewes on farms January 1 (1 1/2 percent more than last year) is largely accounted for by increases in those States producing early lambs. However, only part of the ewes in these States lamb before March 1. The total lamb crop for 1951 (early and late combined) is expected to be but slightly larger than last year.

As of March 1 early lambs were generally making good progress in the Western States but the cold, severe weather had slowed their development in the Southeastern States. Drouth conditions still existed in some sheep producing areas of Texas but most sheep and lambs came through the winter in good condition. Early March storms brought considerable snow, wind and low temperatures to Montana, the Dakotas, Idaho, northern Utah, and Nevada, but did not result in unusual losses.

Marketings of early lambs before July 1 will probably be larger than last year, particularly for California. Larger marketings of the early crop are expected despite the fact that a smaller proportion of the early ewe lambs may be sold for slaughter in view of the strong demand for breeding stock.

Meat Production Up Seasonally In March; February Unseasonally Low

Meat production declined sharply in February. Slaughter of all species of meat animals was markedly reduced from the high January level. Meat production increased in March as marketings of hogs again rose to levels above a year earlier.

Federally inspected production of meat in February at 1,134 million pounds was 31 percent below January and 2 percent below February 1950. This is the first time in six months that Federally inspected production was less than for the corresponding month a year earlier. Although February output of beef, veal and lamb and mutton was below levels of a year earlier, the decline in total meat production was mainly due to unseasonably small hog slaughter. Early in March meat production was still below last year's level but increased during the month and probably totaled close to the March 1950 output.

March Hog Slaughter Above Last Year

Hog slaughter increased from February levels during March and for most of the month was above slaughter a year ago. Estimates of Federally inspected slaughter by weeks placed slaughter during March through the week ending March 24 about 4 percent above the same period in 1950. Slaughter during the last quarter of 1950 averaged above a year earlier by about this same margin. Apparently, producers marketed hogs in a larger than usual volume in January at the expense of slaughter supplies in February.

1950 Fall Pig Crop Will Govern April-June Slaughter

The number of pigs under six months of age on farms January 1 was estimated at about 36 million head or 11 percent more than a year earlier. This estimate is in line with the 9 percent larger 1950 fall pig crop and should mean a material increase in slaughter supplies of barrows and gilts during the next several months. Marketing of these new crop hogs accounted for some of the increased supplies in March over February and should reach a peak in May. Slaughter supplies this summer will include a larger number of sows than last year due to the increased number of sows farrowing spring pigs. Farmers on December 1 intended to keep 4 percent more sows for farrowing this spring than in 1950.

Supplies of slaughter hogs this fall and winter will come largely from the 1951 spring pig crop which is expected to be about 6 percent larger than in 1950. (See table 2.)

Table 2.- Pig crops, hog slaughter, and pork production and consumption, for corresponding pig-crop and hog-marketing periods, 1946-51

Year	Pig crop: Spring 1/	Pig crop: Fall 2/	Pig crop: Total	Commercial slaughter and pork production: Period October-September 3/	Number hogs slaughtered	Pork production 4/: Per head	Pork production 4/: Total	Civilian pork consumption: Total	Civilian pork consumption: Per person
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head		1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Pounds
1946	52,392	30,548	82,940	1946-47	61,265	142.8	8,751	10,155	71.2
1947	52,802	31,345	84,147	1947-48	60,513	141.9	8,586	10,018	69.0
1948	51,266	33,921	85,187	1948-49	61,948	139.2	8,626	9,980	67.4
1949	58,426	37,175	95,601	1949-50	67,693	134.9	9,135	10,442	69.4
1950	59,997	40,657	100,654						
1951	6/63,500								

1/ In six months beginning December of preceding year. 2/ In six months beginning June. 3/ Approximate marketing period corresponding to December-November pig crop year. Marketings for October 1948-September 1949 included an unusually large number of hogs from the 1949 spring crop. 4/ Excludes lard. 5/ Data for March to September 1950 are forecast. Estimates rounded. 6/ Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated number of spring pigs. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.

March Beef Production
Below March 1950

Cattle slaughter during March was above February but below the levels of a year earlier. Cattle slaughter and output of beef during the April-June quarter this year will probably average close to the corresponding quarter of 1950, but for the last half of the year should show a moderate increase over a year earlier.

The expected increase in beef for 1951 is associated with the increased number of cattle and calves on farms January 1. A point has been reached in cattle numbers where marketings for slaughter can be expanded somewhat while at the same time permitting a further gain in the cattle population during 1951. The forecast for slaughter close to last year's level for the next few months is based on the fact that, despite a larger number of cattle on feed January 1 (5 percent above a year ago), a larger proportion of these were light weights and presumably will not be ready for market until later in the year. Too, the pasture season is at hand and farmers will probably postpone marketings of as many cattle as possible to utilize these forage supplies.

March Calf Slaughter
Below a Year Earlier

Calf slaughter and veal production in March, although larger than February, was below a year ago. The number of calves slaughtered under Federal inspection in each month has been below the corresponding month a year earlier since May 1949. During the next few months calf slaughter may be a little below that of a year earlier but, as with cattle, is expected to exceed last year's slaughter during the last half of 1951 and for the year may total about the same as 1950.

Sheep and Lamb Slaughter
To Continue Small

Slaughter of sheep and lambs so far in 1951 has been below that of last year and will continue so throughout most of the year. Since slaughter supplies during January through April are chiefly from feed lots, total slaughter for these months is expected to be below last year because of the smaller number of lambs on feed. (January 1 numbers were 6 percent below a year earlier.) The 1951 early lamb crop is currently estimated to be about 2 percent larger than last year. This larger early lamb crop, most of which are marketed by July 1, would normally be followed by larger marketings. However, with the strong demand for ewe lambs for adding to breeding flocks, the proportion marketed for slaughter may be smaller than usual. It is also likely that fewer mature ewes will be culled out and sent to market. The year's supply of lambs will depend upon the total lamp crop, early and late, which will probably be only slightly above that of 1950.

Production in First Quarter of 1951 Above Last Year

Meat production for the first quarter of 1951 will probably total slightly larger than the first quarter of 1950 despite the relatively low slaughter in February. Heavy January slaughter of hogs accounted for much of the increase. For 1951 as a whole production is expected to total moderately larger than a year earlier. The major increase will be in pork, but beef supplies should be somewhat larger. There will probably be about as much veal as last year but less lamb and mutton.

Dollars and Cents Ceilings Set For Hides and Skins

Effective March 19, the Office of Price Stabilization set up dollars and cents ceilings for cattle hides, kips and calfskins to be sold or delivered on or after March 31, 1951. The general level of hide prices established in the regulation (Revision 1 of GPR-2) is, in the main, based on the average price at which such items sold during November 1950.

The purpose of the regulation is to provide a workable scale of prices for hides and skins sold according to commercial specifications and standards that will facilitate trade and production. In order to meet the various conditions and trade practices, the regulation provides for specific adjustments to be made in prices for differences in average weight of hides, location, degree of cure or size of lots sold, and also sets up special methods for pricing cut parts of hides and skins and for green skins. Specific brokerage fees are also established by the regulation.

Hide Deliveries Allocated

National Production Authority Order M-35, as amended, issued February 28 set up a plan for allocating sales and deliveries of hides and skins. Deliveries of February production had previously been deferred pending the establishment of a distribution program. The purpose of the order is to provide equitable distribution of cattle hides, calfskins and kips, and covers all transfers with the exception of small lots not going to contractors or tanners. The basis of the allocation order is the individual tanner's wettings for the year 1950. The order will attempt to regulate the flow of hides so that each tanner will get the same proportion of the 1951 hide production that he got in 1950.

Prices of Meat Animals Advance in March Following Late February Decline

Market prices of all meat animals continued their upward trend for about two weeks following the Office of Price Stabilization order on January 26 placing controls on meat prices. Later in February prices receded from their mid-month peak but turned upward again in March for all meat animals except hogs. At the end of March prices of cattle, sheep and lambs were above levels of a month earlier. Hog prices were relatively stable in March. The average price of barrows and gilts at 7 markets for the week ending March 24 was $21.48 per 100 pounds, $1.46 below the week ending February 17, whereas the farm price of hogs on March 15 was $0.80 below February 15.

Wooled Lamb Prices Record High

Slaughter lamb prices have increased sharply in the past few weeks, with prices of wooled lambs relatively stronger than shorn lambs because of their increased pelt value. Good and Choice wooled slaughter lambs at Chicago for the week of March 24 averaged $41.68 per hundred pounds, $2.93 above the average price for the week ending February 17, and an all-time high. The comparable grades of shorn lambs were $1.95 cents above a month earlier. The Office of Price Stabilization has announced that the ceiling price of spring lamb carcasses and meat is to be determined in the same manner as the ceiling for regular lambs. Each grade of spring lamb will be priced the same as corresponding grades of regular lambs.

March 15 Farm Prices Above Adjusted Minimum Ceilings

March 15 farm prices of all species of meat animals were at or above the adjusted minimum ceiling as defined by the Defense Production Act of 1950. On that date, the U. S. average farm prices in dollars per hundred pounds were: hogs, 21.20; beef cattle, 29.70; veal calves, 33.50; sheep, 19.00; and lambs, 35.00. As of March 30, price ceilings had not been imposed on live animals.

1950 Wool Production Up

Total wool production in the United States in 1950, shorn and pulled, amounted to 253 million pounds, grease basis, the first time since 1942 wool production has not been less than the preceding year. More shorn wool was produced in 1950 than in 1949 but the production of pulled wool was considerably smaller. Production of shorn and pulled wool in 1951 probably will be about 260 million pounds, grease basis, reflecting the increase of 4 percent in the number of sheep on farms January 1 over a year earlier.

Wool Prices and Incomes Higher

The monthly average price received by domestic growers for shorn wool has increased continuously since November 1949, paralleling increases in prices of wool at foreign markets and at Boston. The annual average price received by growers for shorn wool in 1950 was 57.3 cents per pound, grease basis, the second highest on record. Prices are likely to remain high for the rest of the current season as the demand for wool is expected to remain strong. The average price received by farmers for shorn wool February 15 was $1.09 per pound, an all-time high.

Cash receipts by farmers for shorn wool in 1950 are estimated at 126 million dollars, about 19 million dollars higher than in 1949. The increase was primarily due to higher prices as shorn wool production in 1950 was only moderately above 1949. (See table 3.)

Table 3.- Production, price and income from wool, United States, 1942-50

Year	Sheep shorn number 1/	Weight per fleece	Production shorn wool	Price per pound	Cash receipts	Pulled wool production
	Thousands	Pounds	1,000 lb.	Cents	1,000 dol.	1,000 lb.
1942	49,287	7.88	388,297	40.1	155,728	66,700
1943	47,892	7.91	378,843	41.7	157,825	65,200
1944	43,165	7.84	338,318	42.4	143,513	73,500
1945	38,763	7.94	307,949	41.9	129,122	70,500
1946	34,718	8.08	280,487	42.3	118,639	61,300
1947	31,241	8.09	252,798	42.0	106,052	56,600
1948	29,060	8.05	233,924	48.8	114,072	46,600
1949	26,975	8.04	215,873	49.4	107,137	35,600
1950	27,150	8.11	220,135	57.3	126,171	32,400

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.

Table 4.- Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1942-50 1/

Year	Goats clipped 2/	Average clip per goat	Production	Price per pound	Value
	Thousands	Pounds	1,000 lb.	Cents	1,000 dol.
1942	4,322	4.8	20,676	49.3	10,203
1943	4,276	4.7	20,156	57.1	11,518
1944	4,109	5.0	20,467	60.1	12,306
1945	4,291	5.1	22,038	55.3	12,192
1946	3,943	4.9	19,329	61.1	11,803
1947	3,729	5.0	18,476	53.7	9,923
1948	3,316	5.0	16,591	45.4	7,531
1949	2,866	5.1	14,600	46.3	5,762
1950 3/	2,775	5.2	14,561	75.9	11,049

1/ Seven leading States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California.

2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kid clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall.

3/ Preliminary.

Fewer Goats Clipped;
Mohair Production Down

The number of goats clipped in 1950 in the 7 leading mohair producing States totaled 2,775,000 head, down 91,000 or 3 percent from 1949. Mohair production, however, was only slightly less than last year's clip as the average yield of hair per goat and kid clipped was 5.2 pounds, 0.1 pound above 1949. The value of mohair produced in 1950 amounted to 11 million dollars, nearly twice that of a year earlier. This increase in value is attributable to the increase in mohair prices, which in 1950 averaged 75.9 cents per pound. Prices are likely to remain high for the rest of the current season because of the strong demand for animal fibers. More goats and kids probably will be clipped during 1951 than last year.

Meat in Cold Storage
Declined in February

February's low meat production was reflected in a contraseasonal net withdrawal of meat and meat products from cold storage of 19 million pounds during the month. Beef stocks were down 13 million pounds and pork showed a net withdrawal of 8 million pounds. On March 1, however, holdings of all meats at 941 million pounds were about 15 percent above the stocks of last year.

FOREIGN TRADE 1/

Net Imports of Meat Animals
and Meat Larger in 1950

Net imports of meat animals and meat into the United States were larger in 1950 than in the previous year. Although this country has been a net importer for a number of years, United States foreign trade in meat and meat animals is quite small in relation to domestic production. Even if all edible animals were slaughtered soon after entry into the United States, these net imports of animals and meats during 1950 would have increased domestic consumption less than 3 pounds per person. Foreign trade in selected animals and meat products is relatively more important. The bulk of cattle imports in recent years, for example, were shipments of feeder cattle from Canada, and pickled or cured pork has led all other meat items exported.

Cattle and Calf
Imports up in 1950

Imports of all species of meat animals into the United States were greater in 1950 than in 1949. Cattle and calf imports from Canada in 1950, the principal live animal import, were 6 percent above a year earlier and close to the level of 1948, when Canada removed her embargo on exports of live cattle to the United States. The increase in cattle weighing 200-699 pounds (mostly feeders) more than offset decreases in other import classes. Imports of other meat animals, although up sharply percentagewise, comprise a relatively small part of total imports.

1/ For a previous discussion of various phases of Untied States foreign trade in livestock and meats, see Livestock and Meat Situation, December 1950 and January 1951.

Table 5.- United States commercial foreign trade in meat and meat products, in product weight and in carcass weight equivalent, 1949 and 1950 1/

Product and calendar year	Exports, by country of destination: Netherlands	United Kingdom	Germany	Canada 2/	Cuba	All other	Total	Shipments to United States Territories 3/	Total exports and shipments
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Major meat products, in product weight 4/									
Beef and veal 5/									
1949	0	6/	0.2	11.2	6/	8.2	19.6	2.7	22.3
1950	6/	6/	6/	10.4	6/	6.0	16.6	2.4	19.0
Lamb and mutton									
1949	0	0	0	6/	6/	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.9
1950	0	0	0	6/	6/	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4
Pork 7/									
1949	1.9	10.1	10.3	7.0	15.2	15.1	59.6	29.1	88.7
1950	14.3	6/	2.2	5.9	22.3	13.6	58.3	34.1	92.3
Sausage 8/									
1949	0	6/	6/	0.1	1.2	5.9	7.3	10.5	17.8
1950	6/	6/	6/	0.1	0.8	3.4	4.3	9.5	13.8
All meat products, carcass weight equivalent of meat content 9/									
Beef									
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	21.0	5.7	26.7
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	15.8	5.6	21.4
Veal									
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.0	0.3	2.3
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.7	0.3	2.0
Lamb and mutton									
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	2.2	0.2	2.4
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	1.1	0.2	1.3
Pork									
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	64.3	39.7	104.0
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	66.1	43.9	110.0
Total meat									
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	89.5	45.9	135.4
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	84.7	50.0	134.7

Product and calendar year	Imports, by country of origin: Italy	Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay	Canada	Poland	All other	Total imports
Major meat products, in product weight 4/								
Beef and veal 5/								
1949	0	44.7	6.8	19.8	74.8	0	11.2	157.3
1950	0	90.3	8.8	22.6	62.2	0	15.0	198.9
Lamb and mutton								
1949	0	0	0	0	3.6	0	6/	3.7
1950	0	0	0	0	2.8	0	0.6	3.4
Pork 7/								
1949	0.2	6/	0	0	0.7	1.1	0.9	2.9
1950	0.5	6/	0	0	14.8	7.0	9.3	31.6
All meat products, carcass weight equivalent of meat content 9/								
Beef								
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	228.2
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	322.2
Veal								
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.9
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.8
Lamb and mutton								
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.6
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.4
Pork								
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3.0
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	33.0
Total meat								
1949	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	241.7
1950	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	368.4

1/ Excludes the small quantity exported in 1949 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.
2/ Including Newfoundland.
3/ Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands only.
4/ Includes shipments for military-civilian feeding.
5/ Fresh, frozen, pickled, cured, and canned.
6/ Less than 50,000 pounds.
7/ Fresh, frozen, pickled, salted, and canned pork; bacon; hams and shoulders.
8/ Including canned sausage, and sausage ingredients.
9/ Carcass weight equivalent of meats and of the meat content of minor and mixed meat products. Meat shipped for military-civilian feeding is excluded.

Meat Imports Larger in 1950

Imports of meat, mostly beef and veal, increased in 1950 to 368.4 million pounds, carcass weight equivalent. This quantity was 52 percent greater than in 1949 and exceeds imports of meat in any previous year except in 1918. Exports and shipments of all meats totaled 134.7 million pounds in 1950, about the same as in 1949. Table 5, which summarizes trade data for 1949 and 1950, presents data for the reported product weight of major meats and in carcass weight equivalent of the meat content of all items. Carcass weight equivalent units are comparable with data for production and consumption of meat in this country.

Increases in imports of canned beef from South America accounted for most of the gain in meats imported during 1950. Imports of pork from Canada and Poland showed greater proportionate increases but were responsible for about one-fourth of the gain. Exports and shipments of pork, the principal meat going into export trade from the United States, increased to 110.0 million pounds, carcass weight equivalent, in 1950. Exports of almost all other classes of meats declined.

Meat Animal Imports Likely Lower During 1951

Imports of meat animals into the United States this year will probably be below 1950 levels, as Canadian cattle are expected to move into the United States at a lower rate during 1951 than during the past three years. At the present time Canada is our only source of cattle imports (excluding purebred cattle). Imports of live cattle are prohibited from all countries in which foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist. Mexico was an important source of feeder cattle prior to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease there in 1946. A recent local outbreak of the disease has postponed the removal of restrictions on imports of live cattle from Mexico.

Imports of sheep and lambs will probably decline in 1951 as Canadian sheep numbers, our principal source of imports, have dropped during the past six years. Imports of live hogs are quite small and, although they may increase this year, are not expected to provide a significant portion of domestic slaughter supplies.

Fewer Import Restrictions On Meat Likely in 1951

Imports of meat during 1951 will probably be more nearly on a competitive basis, with the removal of certain trade restrictions on meat. Effective December 30, 1950 certain canned meats and meat food products are permitted entry into the United States from Mexico for domestic consumption. Previously exports of canned meats from Mexico to the United States were permitted only for reexport to foreign countries. Although such shipments

from Mexico for distribution by the United States has declined from the annual peak of 83 million pounds in 1949, it is anticipated that much of such meat formerly reexported will enter the United States for domestic consumption. However, Canada and certain South American countries are expected to supply the bulk of beef and veal during 1951. Imports of Canadian beef and veal (mostly chilled or frozen carcasses) are currently below levels of a year ago and are likely to continue so until the grass run of Canadian cattle starts moving to market in late summer and fall. Imports of canned beef, during 1951, which were primarily from Argentina and Uruguay in 1950 will depend to a large extent upon the demand of other countries for beef. The record shipments of tinned beef from Argentina to the United States coincides with the cut in British imports of refrigerated meat from that country. If British imports of Argentine beef should be resumed soon, it is unlikely that United States imports of canned beef from South America will reach 1950 levels.

Table 6.- United States: Imports of live cattle from Canada, free and dutiable, calendar years 1936-39, 1948, 1949, and preliminary 1950

Year	Dutiable: 700 pounds and over: Dairy	Dutiable: 700 pounds and over: Other	Dutiable: 700 pounds and over: Total	Dutiable: Up to 700 pounds: Under 200 pounds 1/	Dutiable: Up to 700 pounds: 200-699 pounds 2/	Dutiable: Up to 700 pounds: Total	Total dutiable cattle	Pure-bred (free)	Total cattle
	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head
1936	6,686	136,533	143,219	55,695	35,149	90,844	234,063	10,346	244,409
1937	6,724	157,467	164,191	80,792	50,355	131,147	295,338	11,350	306,688
1938	7,442	75,529	82,971	45,645	9,147	54,792	137,763	9,080	146,843
1939	8,570	172,753	181,323	81,832	11,229	93,061	274,384	9,599	283,983
1948	84,275	214,645	298,920	23,571	96,335	119,906	418,826	42,853	461,679
1949	49,061	194,916	243,977	41,535	126,614	168,149	412,126	21,332	433,458
1950	46,591	173,000	219,591	38,985	179,709	218,694	438,285	22,684	460,969

1/ Under 175 pounds for years 1936-38.

2/ 175 to 699 pounds for years 1936-38.

Compiled from Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States and official records of the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

The Canadian Government has ended a three-year restriction on imports and exports of pork and pork products to and from the United States. However, it is not anticipated that the lifting of this embargo will result in a large volume of trading in pork between the two countries. Farmers in both countries have announced their intentions to keep more sows for spring farrowings -- Canada 13 percent more, United States, 4 percent. In 1950 the United States exported 5.9 million pounds of pork (product weight) to Canada, while importing 14.8 million pounds from that country.

New Zealand To Export Only Token Meat Shipments To United States

New Zealand will make only token shipments of meat to the United States this year due to delays in completing shipping assignments. Earlier this year plans had been developed for sending eight million pounds to the United States. The percent plan calls for shipments of 50 tons to each of the firms designated as selling agents in an attempt to lay a foundation for a permanent meat trade with the United States.

USDA Purchases Lard For Export

During February and March, the USDA purchased approximately 12.7 million pounds of lard for export. These purchases were under Department of State orders for Yugoslavia and a Department of the Army order for Okinawa.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Corrections to February Statistical Appendix

In the Statistical Appendix of the February 1951 issue of this Situation, an error was made in the second page of table A-11, page 32. Data on hog slaughter under Federal inspection and in other wholesale and retail establishments by months for 1949 are in error. A corrected page 32 is provided on page 21 of this issue.

Population data in table A-9, page 29, also are in error for 1943-45. Correct data are, for the successive years, 129.6, 129.2 and 129.8 millions.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Feb. av. 1950	Jan.-Feb. av. 1951	1950 Feb.	1951 Jan.	1951 Feb.	1951 March
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	35.75	38.92	34.70	38.38	39.45	40.03
Choice	do.	27.66	35.38	27.19	34.77	35.98	36.67
Good	do.	)24.13	32.48	24.13(	31.88	33.09	33.86
Commercial	do.		30.22		29.47	30.96	31.97
Utility	do.	21.00	27.93	21.55	27.32	28.54	29.96
All grades	do.	25.78	34.49	25.58	34.10	34.88	35.62
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.22	33.47	23.97	32.75	34.19	34.42
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.30	33.46	24.06	32.81	34.10	34.40
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	18.10	25.76	18.92	24.64	26.88	27.86
Utility	do.	16.04	23.94	16.59	23.03	24.86	25.46
Canner and Cutter	do.	14.16	20.82	14.34	20.17	21.48	22.19
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.94	37.28	31.23	36.39	38.18	36.65
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	23.54	33.15	24.13	31.88	34.42	35.12
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	19.90	28.00	20.40	27.00	29.00	29.70
Veal calves	do.	23.95	32.05	24.60	30.80	33.30	33.50
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	16.90	21.45	17.30	20.86	22.04	21.16
180-200 pounds	do.	17.05	22.32	17.53	21.59	23.05	21.89
200-220 pounds	do.	16.98	22.28	17.56	21.55	23.02	22.12
220-240 pounds	do.	16.60	22.10	17.25	21.31	22.90	22.11
240-270 pounds	do.	16.06	21.72	16.78	20.87	22.58	22.02
270-300 pounds	do.	15.60	21.28	16.32	20.39	22.16	21.76
All weights	do.	16.20	21.72	16.85	20.79	22.65	21.94
Seven markets 3/	do.	16.20	21.44	16.78	20.47	22.41	21.66
Sows, Chicago	do.	13.55	18.58	14.60	17.59	19.58	19.54
Price received by farmers	do.	15.85	21.00	16.60	20.00	22.00	21.20
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.5	12.2	13.0	12.0	12.5	12.4
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.7	13.4	14.3	13.0	13.8	13.2
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	12.63	21.40	13.04	19.74	23.05	23.21
Price received by farmers	do.	9.92	16.45	10.20	15.20	17.70	19.00
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	24.26	36.54	25.32	34.67	38.42	40.93
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	24.38	5/33.62	25.12	33.62	---	---
Price received by farmers	do.	22.20	31.65	22.80	30.00	33.30	35.00
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		296	408	306	391	425	428
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	43.08	55.24	42.25	54.57	55.90	55.74
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	6/46.36	54.58	6/47.21	53.55	55.62	55.15
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	17.93	23.48	18.46	22.61	24.34	---
Average per 100 pounds	do.	24.62	32.24	25.34	31.04	33.42	---
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	20.90	26.56	21.47	25.95	27.16	---
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.30	37.24	30.10	36.39	38.08	---
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	67.0	84.1	66.8	83.2	85.0	---
Lamb	do.	63.2	74.4	63.6	74.1	74.6	---
Pork, including lard	do.	36.0	44.8	36.4	44.1	45.4	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		212.3	268.2	216.3	261.5	274.8	---
Retail (1935-39=100)		219.2	268.4	220.5	7/265.5	7/271.2	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Price for January. Not quoted in February.
6/ Price for February 1950 is for 45-50 pounds.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-February 1950	January-February 1951	1950 February	1951 January	1951 February	1951 March
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		140	142	122	168	116	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	245	302	112	183	121	
Sheep and lambs	do.	227	229	112	110	119	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	2,041	2,047	939	1,160	887	
Calves	do.	908	808	443	433	374	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,941	1,798	863	1,058	740	
Hogs	do.	10,035	10,743	4,191	6,584	4,159	
Percentage sows	Percent	10	5	10	6	5	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	996	1,020	1,000	1,022	1,017	
Calves	do.	189	185	181	193	176	
Sheep and lambs	do.	102	102	104	100	103	
Hogs	do.	243	248	239	250	245	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	543	556	546	556	555	
Veal, per head	do.	105	103	101	105	100	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	49	48	49	48	49	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	136	137	134	136	138	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	56	55	56	
Lard, per head	do.	36	37	35	38	35	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	15	15	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	1,102	1,132	510	643	490	
Veal	do.	95	82	44	45	37	
Lamb and mutton	do.	94	86	42	50	36	
Pork 2/	do.	1,363	1,467	559	896	570	
Lard	do.	362	396	147	249	147	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	2,801	2,801	1,292	1,580	1,221	
Calves	do.	1,582	1,412	780	759	654	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,106	1,923	937	1,132	790	
Hogs	do.	12,232	13,106	5,208	7,884	5,222	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	1,452	1,492	674	844	650	
Veal	do.	167	147	80	81	66	
Lamb and mutton	do.	101	91	46	53	38	
Pork 2/	do.	1,640	1,769	686	1,065	704	
Lard	do.	416	452	172	281	171	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	130	147	161	148
Veal	do.	---	---	13	14	12	9
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	14	10	10	9
Pork	do.	---	---	583	499	668	660
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	850	770	960	941

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

Table A-11.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1946 to date, continued
(Corrected page 32 of February 1951 issue)

Year and month	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Total commercial	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton production: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton production: Other wholesale and retail	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton production: Total commercial	Hogs: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Hogs: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs: Slaughter: Total commercial	Hogs: Pork production excluding lard: Federally inspected	Hogs: Pork production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs: Pork production excluding lard: Total commercial	All meat production excluding lard: Federally inspected	All meat production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	All meat production excluding lard: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1946															
Jan.	1,440	177	1,617	66	8	74	4,911	2,087	6,998	747	306	1,053	1,370	713	2,083
Feb.	2,196	196	2,392	101	8	109	4,698	1,791	6,489	709	258	967	1,379	608	1,987
Mar.	1,978	171	2,149	90	7	97	3,636	1,756	5,392	534	248	782	1,149	618	1,767
Apr.	1,736	184	1,920	76	7	83	3,858	1,900	5,758	573	274	847	1,080	675	1,755
May	1,373	203	1,576	57	8	65	4,149	1,430	5,579	606	206	812	1,073	492	1,565
June	1,665	241	1,906	65	10	75	2,316	991	3,307	360	146	506	701	419	1,120
July	1,738	215	1,953	69	8	77	3,863	1,583	5,446	668	236	904	1,411	664	2,075
Aug.	1,578	175	1,753	65	7	72	2,843	1,257	4,100	426	176	602	1,155	528	1,683
Sept.	1,300	205	1,505	54	9	63	438	363	801	71	53	124	335	316	651
Oct.	2,005	308	2,313	84	12	96	3,114	1,381	4,495	462	201	663	1,137	630	1,767
Nov.	1,529	153	1,682	65	7	71	5,434	1,784	7,218	758	253	1,011	1,512	556	2,068
Dec.	1,346	122	1,468	59	5	64	5,133	1,677	7,214	728	235	963	1,493	506	1,999
Year	19,884	2,350	22,234	850	96	946	44,394	18,000	62,394	6,642	2,592	9,234	13,795	6,724	20,519
1947															
Jan.	1,542	130	1,672	68	4	74	5,844	1,682	7,526	827	229	1,056	1,653	525	2,178
Feb.	1,271	97	1,368	57	5	62	3,897	1,187	5,084	555	154	709	1,244	398	1,642
Mar.	1,237	105	1,342	58	4	62	3,406	914	4,320	485	119	604	1,224	375	1,599
Apr.	1,322	114	1,436	61	4	65	3,616	1,006	4,622	521	135	656	1,262	398	1,660
May	1,355	109	1,464	60	5	65	3,831	895	4,726	561	117	678	1,327	372	1,699
June	1,329	128	1,457	55	5	60	3,653	828	4,481	556	111	667	1,281	368	1,649
July	1,280	139	1,419	53	6	59	3,455	793	4,248	551	110	661	1,307	388	1,695
Aug.	1,253	133	1,386	52	5	57	2,731	699	3,430	438	96	534	1,141	347	1,488
Sept.	1,458	157	1,615	60	6	66	2,948	953	3,901	418	131	549	1,227	430	1,657
Oct.	1,697	163	1,860	70	6	76	3,978	1,157	5,135	540	160	700	1,403	460	1,863
Nov.	1,471	139	1,610	61	5	66	5,501	1,246	6,747	759	173	932	1,528	428	1,956
Dec.	1,451	129	1,580	62	5	67	6,254	1,455	7,709	868	197	1,065	1,639	454	2,093
Year	16,667	1,540	18,207	717	62	779	49,116	12,813	61,929	7,080	1,731	8,811	16,236	4,943	21,179
1948															
Jan.	1,347	117	1,464	60	5	65	5,223	1,376	6,599	746	183	929	1,504	452	1,956
Feb.	1,208	99	1,307	56	4	60	3,746	1,109	4,855	531	148	679	1,129	359	1,488
Mar.	1,175	122	1,297	55	5	60	3,574	1,223	4,797	506	166	672	1,124	434	1,558
Apr.	1,045	133	1,178	47	6	53	3,343	1,133	4,476	473	156	629	1,047	436	1,483
May	978	117	1,095	42	5	47	3,562	1,002	4,564	515	138	653	1,060	387	1,447
June	1,262	143	1,405	52	6	58	4,235	884	5,119	651	123	774	1,319	364	1,683
July	1,195	138	1,333	50	5	55	3,044	705	3,749	478	98	576	1,705	323	1,428
Aug.	1,264	142	1,406	53	6	59	2,440	648	3,088	372	91	463	1,025	323	1,348
Sept.	1,464	152	1,616	62	6	68	2,836	839	3,675	398	116	514	1,110	372	1,482
Oct.	1,632	137	1,769	68	5	73	4,098	951	5,049	559	131	690	1,267	374	1,641
Nov.	1,444	135	1,579	62	5	67	5,425	1,031	6,456	752	144	896	1,450	376	1,826
Dec.	1,329	119	1,448	58	5	63	6,089	1,153	7,242	851	160	1,011	1,581	382	1,963
Year	15,343	1,554	16,897	665	63	728	47,615	12,054	59,669	6,832	1,654	8,486	14,721	4,582	19,303
1949															
Jan.	1,235	104	1,339	55	5	60	5,377	1,084	6,461	762	145	907	1,467	370	1,837
Feb.	1,046	86	1,132	48	3	51	4,080	969	5,049	563	127	690	1,194	326	1,520
Mar.	949	83	1,032	43	4	47	4,315	1,006	5,321	594	130	724	1,301	362	1,663
Apr.	676	88	764	31	3	34	3,894	840	4,734	528	108	636	1,166	316	1,482
May	761	97	858	34	4	38	3,721	778	4,499	518	101	619	1,176	320	1,496
June	898	113	1,011	37	5	42	3,745	702	4,447	557	92	649	1,239	320	1,559
July	976	107	1,083	41	4	45	3,165	625	3,790	495	83	578	1,174	295	1,469
Aug.	1,126	128	1,254	48	6	54	3,417	754	4,171	500	98	598	1,264	346	1,610
Sept.	1,180	119	1,299	51	4	55	3,879	850	4,729	518	110	628	1,268	357	1,625
Oct.	1,172	115	1,287	51	5	56	4,959	912	5,871	634	118	752	1,345	355	1,700
Nov.	1,060	106	1,166	48	4	52	6,003	1,069	7,072	802	139	941	1,491	372	1,863
Dec.	1,058	94	1,152	49	4	53	6,477	1,123	7,600	881	142	1,023	1,547	343	1,890
Year	12,137	1,240	13,377	536	51	587	53,032	10,712	63,744	7,352	1,393	8,745	15,632	4,082	19,714
1950															
Jan.	1,077	92	1,169	51	4	55	5,844	1,180	7,024	804	150	954	1,497	377	1,874
Feb.	863	74	937	43	3	46	4,191	1,017	5,208	559	127	686	1,156	330	1,486
Mar.	939	81	1,020	46	4	50	5,020	1,039	6,059	661	130	791	1,352	357	1,709
Apr.	833	89	922	40	4	44	4,316	905	5,221	574	113	687	1,190	322	1,512
May	941	93	1,034	43	4	47	4,339	890	5,229	593	110	703	1,275	343	1,618
June	1,019	102	1,121	44	4	48	4,154	806	4,960	605	104	709	1,277	330	1,607
July	960	102	1,062	41	5	46	3,314	708	4,022	515	92	607	1,182	322	1,504
Aug.	1,076	118	1,194	47	5	52	3,626	809	4,435	520	104	624	1,264	348	1,612
Sept.	1,063	101	1,164	47	4	51	4,137	856	4,993	547	111	658	1,239	349	1,648
Oct.	1,081	99	1,180	47	4	51	5,102	996	6,098	665	131	796	1,399	366	1,765
Nov.	969	89	1,058	43	4	47	6,144	1,102	7,246	821	145	966	1,533	371	1,904
Dec.	918	72	990	42	3	45	6,777	1,174	7,951	924	152	1,076	1,616	361	1,977
Year	11,739	1,112	12,851	534	48	582	56,964	11,482	68,446	7,788	1,469	9,257	16,040	4,176	20,216

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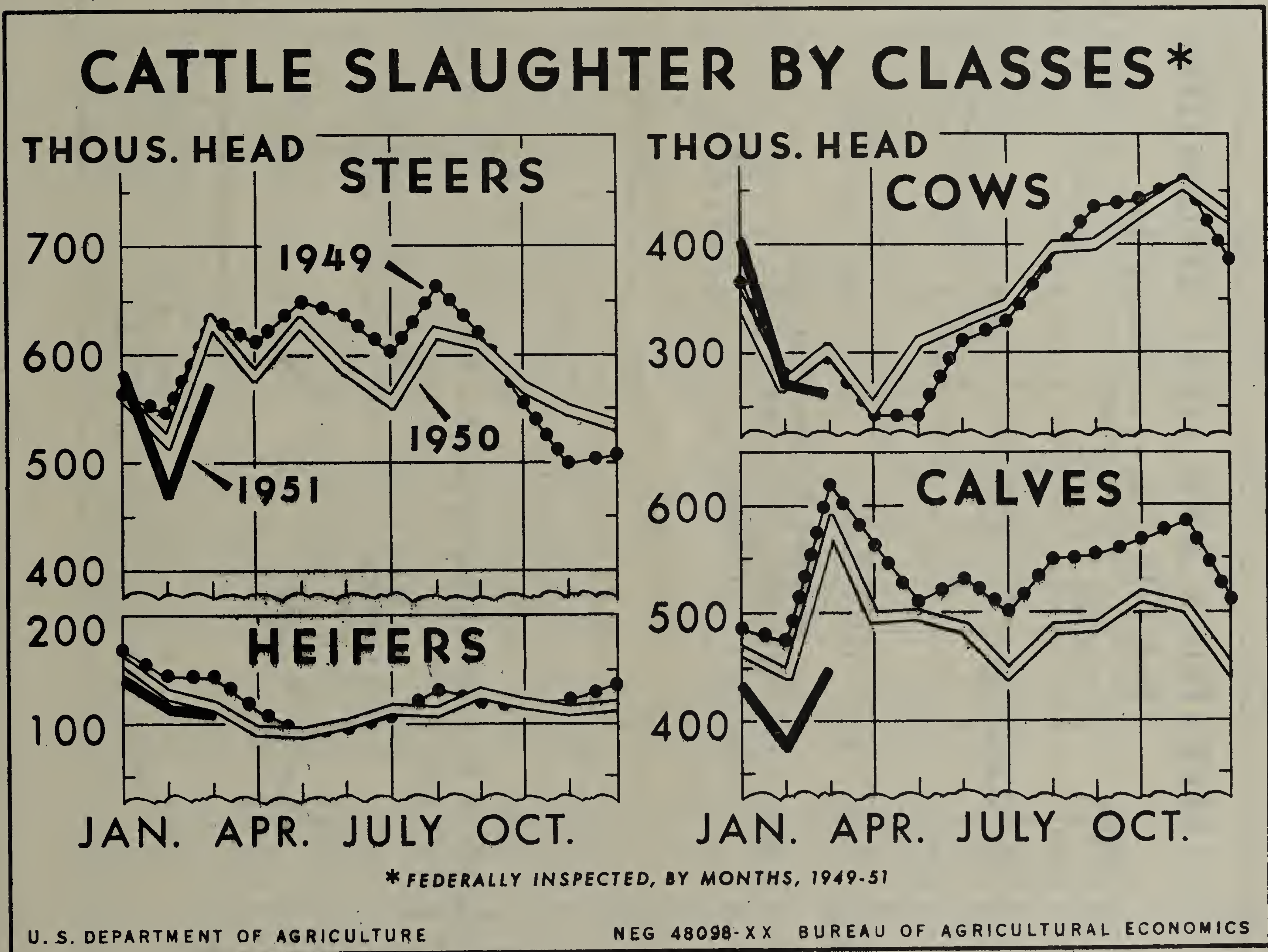
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

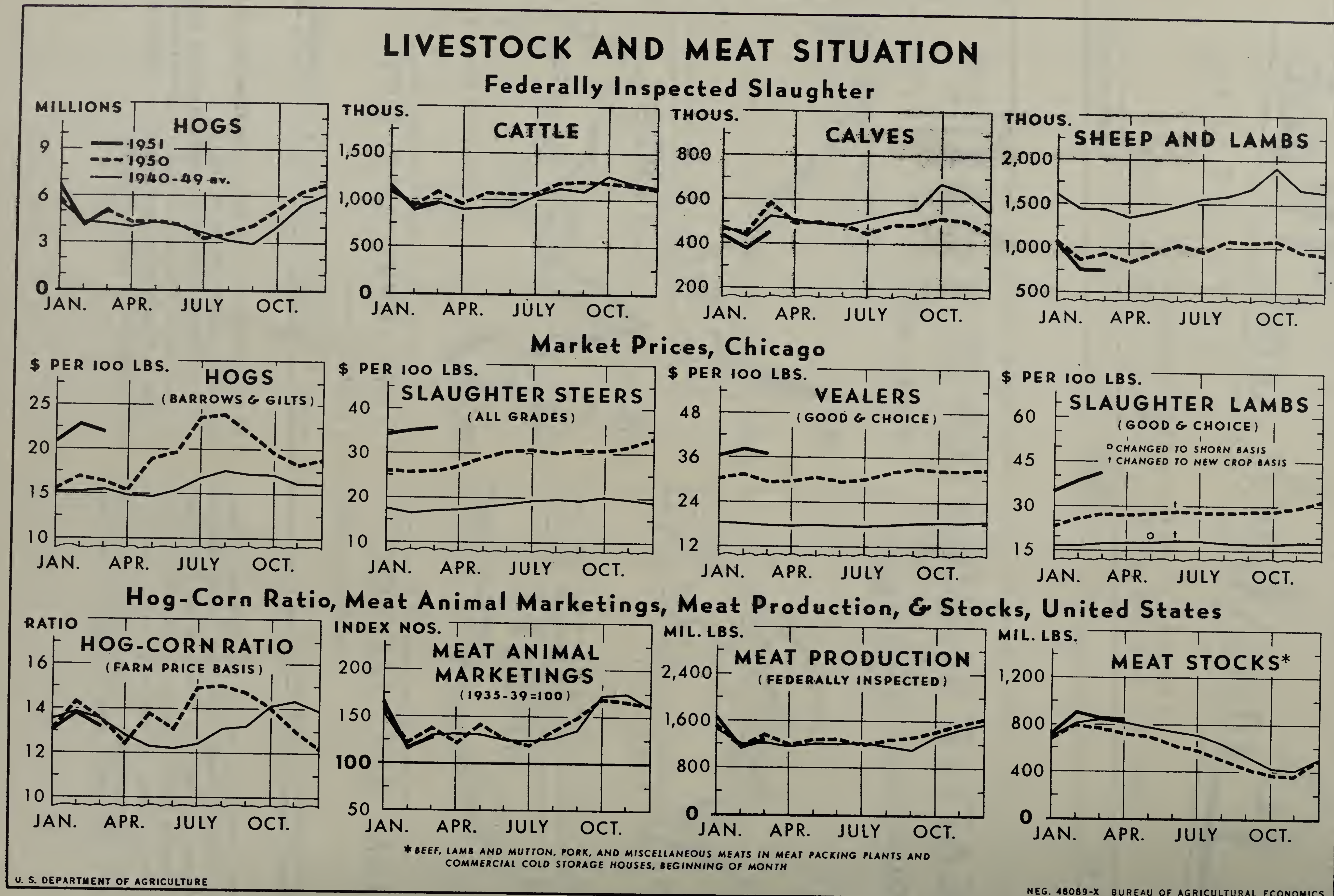
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-50 BAE APRIL 1951



Steer slaughter is due to increase seasonally in months ahead. Although below last year in February and March, it may reach last year's level sometime this summer. A seasonal rise in slaughter of cows is expected later, but prospects are that neither cow nor heifer slaughter for 1951 will often greatly exceed last year. Calf slaughter will probably be smaller than last year during most months of 1951.

Steer slaughter has been comparatively large but cow, heifer and calf slaughter comparatively smaller for more than two years, as producers have increased their cattle herds.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
CALVES
SHEEP AND LAMBS
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS (BARROWS & GILTS)
SLAUGHTER STEERS (ALL GRADES)
VEALERS (GOOD & CHOICE)
SLAUGHTER LAMBS (GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO (FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS (1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION (FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MEAT STOCKS*
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 26, 1951

SUMMARY

Meat production during the rest of 1951 is expected to exceed last year by a greater margin than the small gain realized in the first quarter. Considerably more pork, slightly more beef, but less veal, lamb and mutton than last year are in prospect for months ahead. Meat consumption per person for the entire year may be 2 to 3 pounds larger than the 145 pounds in 1950.

Prices of cattle strengthened further but prices of lambs declined in April following increases earlier in the year. April prices probably reflected ceiling prices for beef and lamb. Prices of hogs, after rising moderately in January and early February, lost most of their gains later as marketings increased seasonally. Pork is probably pressing less against ceiling prices than are other meats.

On April 28 the Office of Price Stabilization announced dollars-and-cents ceilings on beef and ceilings on the average prices slaughterers may pay for cattle. The retail beef ceilings will go into effect May 14 at about April prices, with a gradual reduction due to begin August 1. Overall average prices packers may pay for cattle will be reduced somewhat from April prices when this control goes into force the latter part of May.

Commercial production of pork in the January-March quarter was about 6 percent larger than in the same quarter of 1950. A somewhat greater increase is in prospect for the spring and much of the summer, because hogs slaughtered in this season come from the 9 percent larger pig crop saved last fall than the previous fall. Also, slaughter weights are expected to be a few pounds heavier than last year.

Pork supplies next fall and winter will reflect the increase in the 1951 spring pig crop. Farmers reported last December that they planned a 6 percent larger spring crop than in 1950.

Beef production thus far in 1951 has been close to last year's production but a small increase over a year earlier is likely for the rest of 1951. Four percent more cattle were reported on feed in the Corn Belt April 1 than a year earlier. During some of the spring and summer, marketings of fed cattle are likely to exceed last year.

Slaughter of calves and production of veal have been considerably below last year and are expected to be below 1950 in most months of 1951. A high percentage of calves is still being retained for feeding or for adding to breeding herds.

Because more ewe lambs will probably be held this year than last to increase herds, slaughter of sheep and lambs is likely to be smaller during most of 1951 than in 1950.

Drought prevails in much of the Southern Great Plains and Southwest. Livestock there are still in fairly good condition. Because of the drought, movement of cattle to the Osage pastures of Oklahoma and the Blue Stem (Flint Hills) of Kansas was unusually large and early. The Southwestern drought and the cold stormy weather in other areas have retarded development of early spring lambs, which on April 1 were generally in about average condition.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

April Meat Production Above Last April

Meat production the first quarter of 1951 was slightly larger than in the first three months of 1950. Output was considerably above last year in January but in February it dropped more sharply than usual. Production in April was above last April, with most or all the increase in pork.

For the rest of 1951 meat output will probably exceed last year by a somewhat larger margin than in the first quarter. Consumption per person for the entire year may be 2 to 3 pounds larger than the 145 pounds for 1950.

Pork Production To Be Well Above A Year Earlier For A Few Months

Marketings of hogs have been above a year ago since early in March. They held a seasonally high level during April as more and more fall pigs were moved to slaughter. About 40.7 million pigs were saved last fall, 9 percent more than in the fall of 1949. The bulk of slaughter supplies came from this crop during April and will continue to do so in the next few months. Last year hog slaughter reached a seasonal peak the last week in March and average live weights of hogs slaughtered in that month were relatively light. This year, the fall crop is generally coming to market later and at heavier weights. Slaughter supplies will probably be maintained fairly well until early June. Throughout the rest of spring and much of the summer, the number of hogs slaughtered will be considerably larger than last year. Much of the increase during the summer is likely to be provided by slaughter of sows. Prospects for only a small increase in the fall pig crop this year point to a bigger sow slaughter this summer than last.

Beef Output Matching 1950 Level; May Exceed It Later

Commercial production of beef in the first quarter was almost the same as a year previous -- only 2 percent less. Production during April similarly held about the level of last April.

Table 1.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-year 1948 to first quarter 1951

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
			All meats		
1948	5,002	4,613	4,258	5,430	19,303
1949	5,020	4,537	4,704	5,453	19,714
1950	5,069	4,737	4,764	5,646	20,216
1951	5,124				
			Beef		
1948	2,245	2,083	2,159	2,279	8,766
1949	2,270	2,233	2,399	2,240	9,142
1950	2,224	2,221	2,414	2,380	9,239
1951	2,188				
			Veal		
1948	292	316	364	351	1,323
1949	271	286	347	336	1,240
1950	263	278	312	285	1,138
1951	220				
			Lamb and mutton		
1948	185	158	182	203	728
1949	158	114	154	161	587
1950	151	139	149	143	582
1951	130				
			Pork excluding lard		
1948	2,280	2,056	1,553	2,597	8,486
1949	2,321	1,904	1,804	2,716	8,745
1950	2,431	2,099	1,889	2,838	9,257
1951	2,586				

Unusually heavy average slaughter weights have helped to hold up beef production this winter. The number of cattle slaughtered to date has been a little smaller than last year. In the first three months the number of cows slaughtered under Federal inspection totaled about the same as last year but steer and heifer slaughter was down from a year earlier. (See cover page and table 2.) A higher proportion of steers and heifers marketed this winter compared with last were well-finished. In March, 61 percent of the slaughter steers sold at three midwestern markets graded Choice or Prime, compared with 46 percent in the comparable grades in March 1950. In April, however, the proportion of Choice and Prime steers was steady and no higher than in April 1950, when it was increasing rapidly.

The small number of heifers slaughtered and the higher average finish for all cattle have largely accounted for approximately 25 pounds heavier average slaughter weights for cattle slaughtered this winter than a year earlier.

4 Percent More Cattle On Feed April 1 Than A Year Ago

During some of the spring and summer, cattle slaughter is expected to exceed the 1950 level, and the 1951 total will likely be a little larger than last year's slaughter. A good deal of the increase expected will be in fed cattle. On April 1, 4 percent more cattle and calves were on feed in 11 Corn Belt States than on the same date last year. Numbers on feed in western States were generally up from last year by a larger percentage.

In January, numbers on feed in the Corn Belt were only 2 percent larger than a year earlier. From January through March replacement cattle shipped into the Corn Belt numbered 12 percent more than last year. Marketings in the same period were about the same as a year before.

Cattle feeders who reported the month in which they expected to market fed cattle indicated that 44 percent of the cattle on feed would be marketed by July 1, a slightly larger percentage than was reported in April last year. This is in line with the 3-State (Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska) report that indicated much of the increase in numbers of cattle on feed on April 1 was in cattle weighing over 900 pounds.

Calf Slaughter Small

Slaughter of calves and production of veal so far in 1951 has been considerably below last year and, at most, is not expected to be much above last year during any part of 1951. Calf slaughter under Federal inspection in March was the second smallest for the month in the last 10 years. A high percentage of calves is still being retained for feeding or for adding to breeding herds.

Table 2.- Federally inspected slaughter of steers, heifers, cows and calves, United States, by months 1949 to date

(Cover page data)

Month	Steers			Heifers			Cows			Calves		
	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951	1949	1950	1951
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
January	563	562	583	169	158	141	368	353	401	484	465	433
February	545	517	476	146	129	115	281	269	270	476	443	374
March	634	632	572	145	117	107	294	302	261	619	586	447
April	612	583		112	95		242	249		562	494	
May	649	631		92	92		241	310		510	496	
June	637	585		94	99		311	328		533	485	
July	604	554		107	113		331	346		501	443	
August	665	619		131	111		387	398		549	484	
September	619	610		121	127		437	401		552	488	
October	557	570		117	119		442	432		568	515	
November	500	547		122	113		458	455		585	505	
December	504	534		136	117		385	426		511	445	
Year	7,090	6,944		1,492	1,390		4,178	4,267		6,449	5,850	

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

April 1 Range Conditions Below Average; Drought In Southwest

Range feed conditions in the West on April 1 were close to those of a year ago but below the 1940-49 average. Cool weather and dry soil during March prevented the usual gains in range feed. Range conditions were lower than usual in the drought-stricken Southern Great Plains States and the Southwest, particularly in parts of Colorado, Texas, Utah, Arizona and Nevada. Conditions were above average in Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon and California. Cattle came through the winter in generally good condition, except in drought areas, and for the West as a whole were in average flesh. Because of the dry conditions in Texas and the Southwest, cattle have been moving into the Blue Stem-Osage pastures of Kansas and Oklahoma earlier than usual and the total in-movement is likely to be larger than last season. Pasture feed prospects in these summer pasture areas are well above last year and about average. Prices for pasture leasing were record high.

Changes in Beef, Cattle Ceilings Announced April 28; No Changes For Lamb Or Pork

On April 28 the Office of Price Stabilization announced dollars-and-cents ceilings on beef and ceilings on the average prices slaughterers may pay for cattle. The retail beef ceilings will go into effect May 14 at about April prices, with a gradual reduction due to begin August 1. Overall average prices packers may pay for cattle will be reduced somewhat from April prices when this control goes into force the latter part of May.

No changes were made in present ceilings on lamb and pork, nor were ceilings imposed on live lambs and hogs. Under the unchanged regulations, retail lamb ceilings will probably be the main factor determining the general level of live lamb prices. With the current level of hog marketings and pork prices, present ceilings on pork may not be so uniformly important with respect to hog prices.

Cattle Prices Strengthen in April; Price Spread Between Grades Narrows

Cattle prices declined early in April and then strengthened later in the month as prices of several grades of slaughter cattle rose to levels close to or above previous high points reached late in March. Generally at this time of year the price spread between grades of slaughter cattle narrows in response to the higher proportion of highly-finished fed cattle in market receipts and the strong demand for lower grade cattle as the pasture season begins. This tendency has been evident nearly every week so far in 1951 as more and more finished cattle came to market. When prices increased, advances were usually greater for the lower grades. By the week ending April 19 Prime steers had advanced $2.56 per 100 pounds from the first week in January compared with a rise of $4.70 for Utility steers. In that April week the spread of $9.40 at Chicago between Prime and Utility steers was somewhat wider than between comparable grades in the same week last year.

Hog Prices Slip From March Level

Hog prices declined in April about $1.00 per 100 pounds below mid-March. They were about $2.00 below the high point for the season to date reached in mid-February and only a little above early January prices. Prices may remain fairly steady for the next few weeks. A seasonal rise is likely this summer.

On March 15 the average price received by farmers for hogs was $21.20 per 100 pounds, exactly the parity price without adjustment for seasonal.

Sheep and Lamb Prices Decline During April

The downward adjustment in prices during April was relatively greater for sheep and lambs than for hogs. The price of Good and Choice wooled slaughter lambs at Chicago the week ending April 21 was $38.70 per 100 pounds, $2.98 below the all-time record the week of March 24. Previously, lamb prices had advanced nearly each successive week since last October.

Prices for slaughter ewes declined somewhat less in early April than did prices for lambs. However, the percentage increase in prices since last April has been more pronounced for ewes than for lambs. The average price of Good and Choice slaughter ewes at Chicago for the week ending March 24, the high point, was $23.60 per 100 pounds, $9.55 above the average price the comparable week in 1950. Part of the increase in price is attributable to increased pelt value as prices for wool and skin increased.

Prices of sheep and lambs probably will remain close to current levels during the next few months, unless they are modified by changes in price controls. The strong demand for breeding stock probably will result in smaller than usual supplies of sheep and lambs for slaughter in relation to numbers on farms. This will temper, or possibly eliminate, the seasonal summer decline in price.

Early Lambs In Good To Fair Condition April 1

Development of early lambs was retarded somewhat during March, but their condition on April 1 was generally good. Dry weather in California, Arizona and Texas kept lambs from developing as rapidly as expected earlier. Cold stormy weather in the Pacific Northwest and in the Southwestern States held back pastures, and resulted in above average death losses in the latter area.

Marketing of early lambs from most regions promises to be somewhat later than last year because of the delayed pasture growth. In California, however, the lamb crop probably will be marketed somewhat earlier and at lighter weights.

Despite a slightly larger crop, marketings of early lambs this year may not quite equal last year because of the strong demand for breeding stock.

Total Meats In Cold Storage
April 1 15 Percent Above
A Year Ago

Total meats in commercial cold storage April 1 were 899 million pounds, 15 percent greater than a year earlier. Net withdrawals of 19 million pounds during March were smaller than usual, largely reflecting reduced withdrawals of pork.

Returns From Lamb Feeding
Higher Than Last Winter

Average returns from lambs fed last fall and winter were exceptionally high, more than three times the average for the past five years. (See table 3.) Feeder lambs cost more, on the average, last fall than in the fall of 1949 and feed costs were also higher. But the increase in income from the sale of lambs for slaughter exceeded the increase in costs and thus resulted in greater profits from feeding than last year.

Returns to individual farmers probably varied greatly from these averages. Costs are far from uniform among feeders, and receipts vary depending upon market prices at the times the lambs are bought and sold. However, since prices for slaughter lambs trended higher through all the winter marketing season, it seems likely that a large proportion of lamb feeders realized a higher net profit from feeding operations last winter than a year earlier. Prices of Choice and Prime slaughter lambs at Chicago rose from $31.37 per 100 pounds in December to $40.93 in March.

Canned Meat Production In 1950
Substantially Above 1949

Distribution of canned meat for civilian consumption rose to a new high in 1950, about 20 percent greater than in 1949 (table 4). Federally inspected production of canned meat in 1950, which comprises most of total United States production, was 1,231 million pounds, product weight, above the previous year but still below the record output in 1942 to 1946. However, the termination of USDA purchases and smaller military purchases than in those war years made larger supplies available for civilian distribution. Imports of canned beef, although less than 10 percent of total supplies, were the second highest on record.

Class 3 Slaughterer Redefined

Effective March 31, Class 3 slaughterers were reclassified by Amendment 2 to Distribution Regulation 1 (formerly Distribution Order 1) to define as a Class 3 slaughterer a farm operator who transferred during 1950 less than 6,000 pounds of meat produced from the slaughter of livestock by him or for him by others. Previously such a farmer whose slaughtering was done by others was classed as 1A or 2A. The amendment has the effect of classifying farm slaughterers on the amount of meat transferred regardless of who does the slaughtering.

Table 3.- Average prices and values of important items affecting returns from lamb feeding, 1945-46 to 1950-51

Item	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	1950-1951
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Price per 100 pounds of Choice and Prime slaughter lambs, Chicago, December-March 1/	15.12	23.34	23.83	25.72	24.33	36.35
Direct subsidy to producers, per 100 pounds	2.25	0	0	0	0	0
Price per 100 pounds of Good and Choice feeder lambs, Omaha, September-December	14.56	17.73	21.29	22.90	23.16	29.35
Price per bushel received by farmers for corn, North Central States, October-March	1.036	1.292	2.222	1.190	1.093	1.473
Price per ton received by farmers for alfalfa hay, baled, North Central States, October-March	2/15.93	3/23.00	3/25.00	25.25	21.68	21.98
	Total value					
Market value at Chicago of Choice and Prime 85 pound slaughter lambs 1/	12.85	19.84	20.26	21.86	20.68	30.90
Subsidy credit	1.91	0	0	0	0	0
Market cost at Omaha of 60 pound feeder lambs	8.74	10.64	12.77	13.74	13.90	17.61
Cost of 2 1/2 bushels of corn	2.59	3.23	5.56	2.98	2.73	3.68
Cost of 150 pounds of alfalfa hay	1.19	1.72	1.88	1.89	1.63	1.65
Total of cost items shown 4/	12.52	15.59	20.21	18.61	18.26	22.94
Margin of market value per lamb over total of cost items shown 4/	2.24	4.25	.05	3.25	2.42	7.96

1/ Formerly Good and Choice. New grades were effective April 30, 1951.
2/ Price received for loose alfalfa hay.
3/ Estimated from U. S. average price paid for baled alfalfa hay.
4/ Does not include purchasing or marketing expenses, labor cost, death losses, overhead costs or costs of other feed ingredients, or credits for manure. The prices shown are averages for the lamb feeding season for the North Central region, and do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

Table 4.- Canned meat: Supply and distribution, 1937-50

(Net product weight)

Year	Federally inspected production 1/	Imports 2/	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments 3/	Ending stocks	USDA purchases 4/	Military purchases 5/	Apparent civilian distribution 6/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1937	308.1	88.1		396.2	21.9		0		374.3
1938	303.5	78.6		382.1	22.8		0		359.3
1939	406.8	85.9		492.7	23.9		0		468.8
1940	530.2	61.3		591.5	20.2		0		571.3
1941	883.9	104.3		988.2	26.7		188.4	75.5	697.6
1942	1,926.6	91.6		2,018.2	19.8		875.6	920.5	202.3
1943	2,051.2	105.5		2,156.7	9.9		1,024.8	680.5	441.5
1944	1,930.7	87.7		2,018.4	13.2	17.7	448.6	1,121.0	417.9
1945	1,926.1	54.8	17.7	1,998.6	13.5	18.1	359.6	970.9	636.5
1946	1,342.8	3.3	18.1	1,364.2	55.3	22.6	157.1	19.2	1,110.0
1947	1,099.4	28.7	22.6	1,150.7	64.3	27.3	---	31.1	1,028.0
1948	1,096.0	129.1	27.3	1,252.4	35.4	28.0	---	52.8	1,136.2
1949	1,039.7	72.3	28.0	1,140.0	25.7	27.2	---	23.0	1,064.1
1950	1,231.3	124.6	27.2	1,383.1	18.5	27.3	---	50.3	1,287.0

1/ Beef, pork, sausage, all other, excluding soup. Data from Bureau of Animal Industry.
2/ Canned beef only. Data from Department of Commerce.
3/ Includes shipments to Territories. Excludes shipments under lend-lease and UNRRA (1941-46) and the Civilian Supply Programs of the U.S. Department of the Army in foreign countries (1948-50). Data from Department of Commerce.
4/ Canned meats and meat food products officially graded for CCC. Does not include transfers of meat from the military to CCC or small quantities turned back to civilians or transferred to the military. Purchases from U.S. supplies or from imports.
5/ From Statistical Yearbook of the Quartermaster Corps and other military records. Not a complete listing of all canned meats purchased during the war years, but cover practically all of the canned meats purchased during the war for mass troop feeding. Includes imported canned meat and army rations and some meat and rations later transferred to CCC and UNRRA.
6/ Calculated from Federally inspected supplies and distribution as shown. Federally inspected production is the largest part of total U.S. production of canned meats.

OPS Slaughter Quotas On Cattle During April

In an amendment to Distribution Regulation 1 issued April 2, the Office of Price Stabilization postponed to April 29 the establishment of quotas on calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs. The slaughter quota on cattle during April for each slaughterer was set at 100 percent of the live weight of cattle he slaughtered during the corresponding period of 1950.

The amendment also delayed issuance of registration numbers by OPS to April 15. This means that some commercial slaughterers not Federally inspected did not have an identifying number with which to mark their meats until that date.

Changes In Federal Grades For Lamb, Mutton and Sheep Now Official

Effective April 30 Federal grades for lamb, yearling mutton, and mutton carcasses and grades for slaughter lambs and sheep were officially changed in line with revisions proposed earlier. (See The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1951, page 15.) These changes complete revisions in Federal grades for almost all slaughter animals and carcasses except hogs and pork.

The carcass grade standards are used as the basis for Federal grading of meat, which has been a non-compulsory service utilized by many slaughterers. Meats so graded are stamped with a purple ribbon stamp.

BAI Annual Inspection Report

Meat from 987 slaughtering and meat processing establishments was Federally inspected in the fiscal year 1949-50, according to the annual report of the Bureau of Animal Industry. The major part of the BAI's inspection service covers slaughter and processing in domestic plants although other meats in interstate trade, such as meat and meat products imported into the United States, must be inspected and passed. Of the 87.7 million head of animals slaughtered under Federal inspection in fiscal 1950 an average of slightly more than three carcasses out of each 1,000 were condemned in whole or in part as unfit for human consumption.

Anglo-Argentine Meat Agreement Signed

The Argentine Government officially announced on April 23 the signing of a one-year agreement with the United Kingdom for the sale of 200,000 long tons (449 million pounds) of chilled or frozen beef and mutton and 30,000 tons (67 million pounds) of canned corn beef. Britain will pay prices ranging from 118 pounds sterling per long ton (14.75 United States cents per pound) 1/ for a stated grade of frozen beef to 146 pounds sterling (18.25 cents per pound) for chilled beef, compared to a flat 97.536 pounds sterling per ton under the 1949 agreement. The significance of the price change is not readily apparent, as Britain has devalued the pound sterling since the signing of the old agreement and the new pact calls for delivery of commodities in partial payment for the meat and also provides for settlement of financial claims between the two countries.

1/ Converted at the rate of $2.80 to one pound sterling.

Deliveries of Argentine meat to the United Kingdom had been suspended for nine months while the new treaty was being negotiated. Shipments are to be resumed immediately as Britain agreed to take all chilled meat offered during the remaining period of the 1949 agreement. The United Kingdom has also offered to buy any carcass or canned meat offered during the period of the new agreement above the quantity stated in the pact.

Cured Beef Arriving
From Mexico

Entry of canned meat and of certain cooked and cured meat products from Mexico has been permitted since the first of the year. Most of the imports to date have been cured beef. In March, according to preliminary port of entry data, about 1 1/2 million pounds of cured beef were imported from Mexico.

Cured beef entering under this authority must be reprocessed by a Federally inspected processor that has been specially approved for the purpose by the Bureau of Animal Industry. Further definitions and specifications regarding imports were made in an order issued by the Secretary of Agriculture March 30.

World Cattle Numbers
Record High

World cattle numbers at the beginning of 1951 are estimated at the record level of 806.3 million head by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This estimate is about 2 percent above the number a year earlier and about 8 percent above the 1936-40 average. The number of cattle has been increasing for a number of years and a moderate increase is in prospect during 1951. However, a tightening of feed supplies in many important cattle producing areas may limit further expansion of herds.

Cattle numbers expanded during 1950 on all continents, but in Asia and South America the increase was very small. The largest numerical gains were registered in Africa and North America. Numbers of cattle are still slightly below the 1936-40 average in Europe and Asia despite increases during the past few years.

World Hog Numbers
Also Record High

World hog numbers on January 1, 1951 are estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at 297 million head, a record total. This is 6 percent above a year earlier and places current numbers above the 1936-40 average for the first time since World War II ended. A further increase in world hog numbers is in prospect during 1951.

Hog numbers increased on all continents during 1950 except in Australia and New Zealand where numbers are estimated the same as the previous year. Largest numerical gains were made in North America, Africa and Europe but numbers are still below the prewar average in the latter continent and in Asia. The USSR is estimated to have about one-fourth fewer hogs now than prewar.

Hog numbers are expected to increase moderately during 1951 but the trend by countries will be closely associated with the availability of feed. In the United States and Canada prospects for rising consumer incomes indicate demand for pork will continue high there, encouraging hog production in the coming year if feed is adequate. Further gains in hog production may be made in the countries of Europe and Asia.

World Sheep Numbers Up 4 Percent During 1950

World sheep numbers increased about 4 percent during 1950 to an estimated 762 million head, 2 percent above the 1936-40 average, according to estimates made by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. A continued rise in sheep and lamb numbers is expected in 1951 if grazing conditions are favorable.

The expansion in sheep numbers was greatest in the major producing areas, but gains in other countries were important. Despite the upward trend in numbers, such important sheep producing countries as the United States, the United Kingdom, China, India, Algeria, Tunisia and the Union of South Africa continue below prewar levels.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Tables 5 to 8 present newly released data on production, distribution, and income from meat animals in 1950, along with tabulations for several earlier years. These data revise and bring to date certain tables of the February Statistical Appendix of this *Situation*.

Table 5.- Number of cattle and calves on farms, calf crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1946 to date 1/

Year	On hand, January 1: All cattle	On hand, January 1: All cows 2 years +	Calves born: Percentage of cows 2 years +	Calves born: Number	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/: Cattle	Marketings 3/: Calves	Farm slaughter: Cattle	Farm slaughter: Calves	Deaths: Cattle	Deaths: Calves	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1946	82,434	43,014	80	34,550	8,877	26,188	12,656	943	758	1,566	2,543	18,782
1947	81,207	42,567	83	35,234	8,281	26,995	14,117	860	682	1,473	2,469	19,055
1948	78,126	41,039	82	33,708	7,620	23,370	12,728	800	561	1,405	2,292	18,371
1949	78,298	40,398	85	34,464	8,244	23,281	12,470	776	517	1,532	2,378	19,352
1950	80,052	41,321	85	35,120	9,026	23,484	11,511	741	462	1,470	2,351	20,587
1951	84,179	42,962										

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of calf crop, inshipments and on hand beginning of year.
2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals.
3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Revises and brings to date table A-5 of Statistical Appendix of The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1951.

Table 6.- Number of hogs on farms, pig crops and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1946 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Pigs saved: Spring	Pigs saved: Fall	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/	Farm slaughter	Deaths	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1946	61,301	52,392	30,548	464	64,370	13,850	9,564	19,041
1947	56,921	52,802	31,345	497	63,524	12,781	10,232	18,667
1948	55,028	51,266	33,921	457	61,750	12,267	9,527	18,739
1949	57,128	58,426	37,175	541	69,806	11,549	11,413	20,190
1950	60,502	59,997	40,657	580	73,483	10,984	12,241	20,927
1951	65,028							

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of pig crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year.
2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals.
3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Revises and brings to date table A-6 of Statistical Appendix of The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1951.

Table 7.- Number of sheep and lambs on farms, lamb crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1946 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1 all sheep and lambs	Lambs saved: Number	Lambs saved: Percent of ewes 1 year +	Inshipments 2/: Sheep	Inshipments 2/: Lambs	Marketings 3/: Sheep	Marketings 3/: Lambs	Farm slaughter: Sheep	Farm slaughter: Lambs	Deaths: Sheep	Deaths: Lambs	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1946	42,436	24,540	89	730	6,808	6,496	24,172	276	304	3,170	2,278	1,763
1947	37,818	22,082	88	652	6,000	5,052	21,116	257	302	2,890	2,108	1,579
1948	34,827	20,011	85	637	5,632	4,620	19,262	244	298	3,006	2,023	1,404
1949	31,654	18,810	87	790	5,224	3,432	16,990	216	280	2,939	1,878	1,310
1950	30,743	18,522	89	741	5,750	2,801	16,563	198	244	2,654	1,791	1,362
1951	31,505											

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketing, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of lamb crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year.
2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals.
3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States.
Revises and brings to date table A-7 of Statistical Appendix of The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1951.

Table 8.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1946 to date

Year	Live weight of marketing 1/: Cattle and calves	Live weight of marketing 1/: Sheep and lambs	Live weight of marketing 1/: Hogs	Meat animal marketings, Index no., 1935-39=100	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Cattle and calves	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Sheep and lambs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: Hogs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/: All meat animals	Gross income 2/ 3/: Cattle and calves	Gross income 2/ 3/: Sheep and lambs	Gross income 2/ 3/: Hogs	Gross income 2/ 3/: All meat animals
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1946	24,964	2,673	16,233	146	3,722	362	2,961	7,045	3,793	366	3,449	7,608
1947	25,902	2,274	16,015	147	4,932	403	4,005	9,340	5,017	408	4,635	10,060
1948	22,856	2,087	15,471	135	5,231	413	3,715	9,360	5,326	419	4,307	10,052
1949	23,561	1,786	17,045	139	4,838	354	3,190	8,383	4,920	359	3,627	8,906
1950	23,846	1,708	17,795	142	5,716	390	3,297	9,402	5,808	395	3,697	9,900

1/ Excludes interfarm sales.
2/ Does not include Government payments.
3/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.
Revises and brings to date table A-16 of Statistical Appendix of The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1951.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Mar. av. 1950	Jan.-Mar. av. 1951	1950 March	1951 Feb.	1951 March	1951 April
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	34.58	39.29	32.24	39.45	40.03	
Choice	do.	27.55	35.81	27.33	35.98	36.67	
Good	do.	(24.26	32.94	24.51)	33.09	33.86	
Commercial	do.		30.80		30.96	31.97	
Utility	do.	21.37	28.61	22.13	28.54	29.96	
All grades	do.	25.82	34.87	25.90	34.88	35.62	
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.39	33.79	24.74	34.19	34.42	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.45	33.77	24.75	34.10	34.40	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	18.80	26.46	20.21	26.88	27.86	
Utility	do.	16.50	24.45	17.42	24.86	25.46	
Canner and Cutter	do.	14.39	21.28	14.84	21.48	22.19	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.43	37.07	29.39	38.18	36.65	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	24.13	33.81	25.32	34.42	35.12	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	20.27	28.57	21.20	29.00	29.70	30.20
Veal calves	do.	24.10	32.53	24.20	33.30	33.50	33.90
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	16.66	21.35	16.17	22.04	21.16	
180-200 pounds	do.	16.90	22.18	16.59	23.05	21.89	
200-220 pounds	do.	16.89	22.23	16.72	23.02	22.12	
220-240 pounds	do.	16.63	22.11	16.70	22.90	22.11	
240-270 pounds	do.	16.21	21.82	16.51	22.58	22.02	
270-300 pounds	do.	15.80	21.44	16.21	22.16	21.76	
All weights	do.	16.27	21.79	16.41	22.65	21.94	
Seven markets 3/	do.	16.26	21.51	16.38	22.41	21.66	
Sows, Chicago	do.	13.87	18.90	14.52	19.58	19.54	
Price received by farmers	do.	15.93	21.07	16.00	22.00	21.20	20.60
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.4	12.3	12.3	12.5	12.4	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.6	13.3	13.4	13.8	13.2	12.7
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	13.08	22.00	13.99	23.05	23.21	
Price received by farmers	do.	10.28	17.30	11.10	17.70	19.00	18.10
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	25.13	38.01	26.88	38.42	40.93	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	25.12	5/33.62	26.59	---	---	
Price received by farmers	do.	22.70	32.77	24.00	33.30	35.00	34.30
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers							
(1910-14=100)		300	415	308	425	428	428
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	42.76	55.40	42.12	55.90	55.74	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	6/48.20	54.77	6/51.88	55.62	55.15	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	17.92	23.60	17.90	24.34	23.85	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	24.60	32.40	24.57	33.42	32.74	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	21.00	26.60	21.20	27.16	26.69	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.44	37.30	29.73	38.08	37.42	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	67.2	84.3	67.6	85.0	84.8	
Lamb	do.	64.1	74.1	65.8	74.6	73.5	
Pork, including lard	do.	36.4	45.0	37.1	45.4	45.5	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		212.7	270.0	213.6	274.8	273.7	
Retail (1935-39=100)		220.7	269.5	224.1	271.2	271.9	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Price for January.
6/ Price of 45-50 pound lambs for February and March.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-March 1950	January-March 1951	1950 March	1951 February	1951 March	1951 April
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		139	137	137	116	127	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	386	433	141	121	131	
Sheep and lambs	do.	328	323	101	119	93	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	3,123	3,012	1,082	887	965	
Calves	do.	1,494	1,255	586	374	447	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,879	2,536	939	740	738	
Hogs	do.	15,055	15,860	5,020	4,159	5,117	
Percentage sows	Percent	10	5	9	5	5	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	996	1,016	995	1,017	1,007	
Calves	do.	181	177	170	176	162	
Sheep and lambs	do.	102	103	103	103	105	
Hogs	do.	240	246	234	245	240	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	544	556	547	555	557	
Veal, per head	do.	101	99	96	100	94	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	49	49	49	49	50	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	135	136	132	138	134	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	56	
Lard, per head	do.	36	36	34	35	34	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	14	14	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	1,691	1,667	589	490	535	
Veal	do.	150	124	55	37	42	
Lamb and mutton	do.	140	123	46	36	37	
Pork 2/	do.	2,024	2,151	661	570	684	
Lard	do.	533	571	171	147	176	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	4,281	4,102	1,479	1,221	1,301	
Calves	do.	2,571	2,173	989	654	761	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,126	2,721	1,020	790	798	
Hogs	do.	18,291	19,274	6,060	5,222	6,168	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,224	2,188	772	650	696	
Veal	do.	263	220	96	66	73	
Lamb and mutton	do.	151	130	50	38	39	
Pork 2/	do.	2,431	2,586	791	704	817	
Lard	do.	612	653	196	171	201	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	113	161	149	133
Veal	do.	---	---	11	12	8	8
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	13	10	9	8
Pork	do.	---	---	573	668	642	638
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	816	960	918	899

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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JUNE 8, P. M.

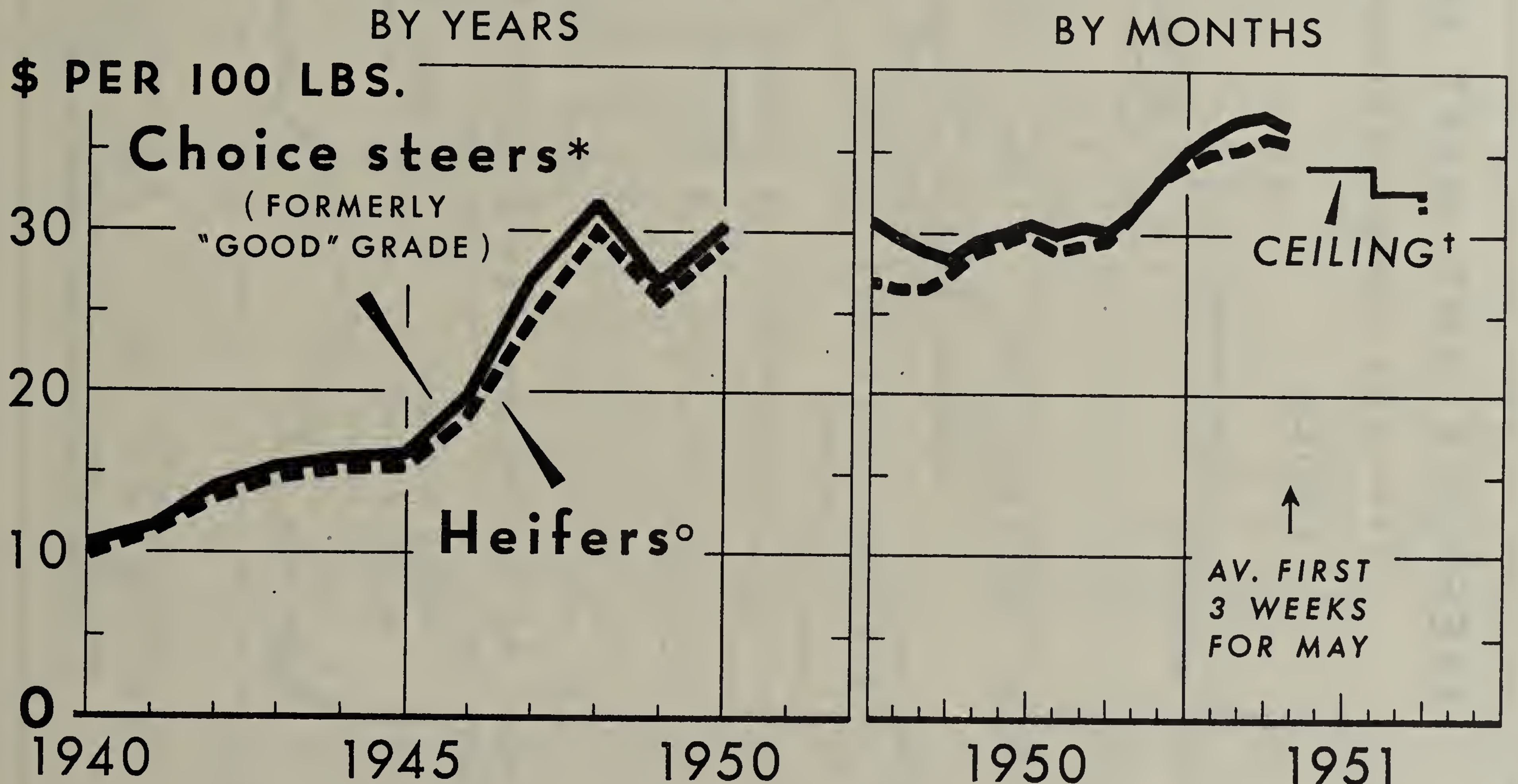
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-51 BAE MAY 1951

In this issue:
Rank of States in Livestock Numbers and Production.

STEER AND HEIFER PRICES AND CEILINGS AT CHICAGO



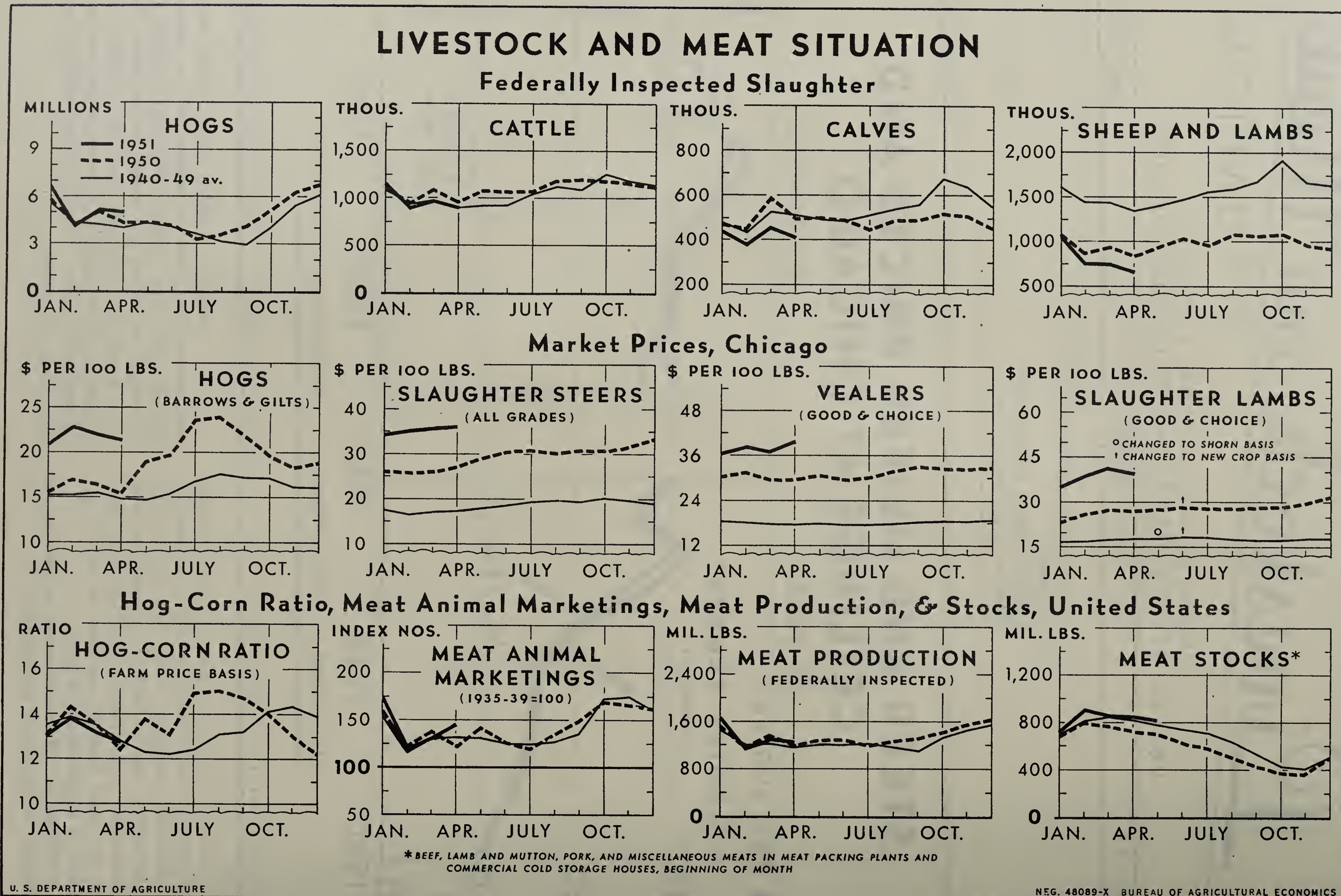
*AV. 900-1,000 AND 1,100-1,300 LBS. °AV. 600-800 AND 800-1,000 LBS.
†APPROXIMATE EQUIVALENT OF ANNOUNCED WHOLESALE CEILINGS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48180-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Dollars-and-cents ceilings were placed on beef prices at wholesale and retail on May 14. No specific ceilings were set up for live cattle prices, but an indirect control on over-all average cattle prices was imposed by a limit on total cost to packers of cattle purchased in a specified period.

Ceilings at all levels were scheduled for rollbacks on August 1 and October 1.

The wholesale ceiling for Choice beef carcasses for June is equivalent to about $34.20 for live cattle of Choice grade at Chicago, or about the same as the price for this grade in January; and the ceiling for August is about $32.70 or about equal to last December's price. The October ceiling has not been announced.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
THOUS.
CALVES
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, May 31, 1951

SUMMARY

Cattle slaughter varied considerably from week to week after the announcement of the new price control regulation on April 28, but the total for May showed about the usual seasonal gain over April. Prices of cattle moved lower during much of May, then recovered part of the loss. Late in the month, they were a little above the ceiling that was about to go into effect.

Slaughter of hogs was unusually steady from March to about the middle of May when the seasonal decline began. Prices of hogs also were stable during the March to May period. A seasonal downtrend in slaughter and some strengthening of prices are expected through early summer.

Pork production in May was around 10 percent larger than a year earlier. During the rest of 1951, the gain over 1950 probably will be 5 to 10 percent. Beef supplies are expected to fluctuate more than usual in months ahead but total output for June to December is likely to equal or exceed the total for the same months of 1950.

Dollars-and-cents ceilings on retail and wholesale prices of beef went into effect by mid-May. Ceilings at retail were set up by cut, grade, class of store, and geographic zone. The new ceiling prices average about the same as April prices, with some cuts higher and others lower.

Grading of all meat except pork by Federal standards is now required.

Ceiling limitations were placed on prices of live cattle effective, for most packers, on June 4. There is no schedule of live cattle ceilings as such, but the overall average of cattle prices is restricted by an aggregate total cost each slaughterer is allowed to pay for the cattle he kills. This maximum cost is computed by the slaughterer on the basis of the wholesale ceiling prices for his carcasses as they actually grade, weigh, and dress out.

Prices for live cattle under this ceiling average about 10 percent less than in April and about the same as in January. The reduction was intended to remove the squeeze on packers and distributors, whose margins narrowed after January 27 as wholesale and retail prices were nearly stationary while prices of cattle advanced.

Rollbacks in prices of beef and of cattle are scheduled by the Office of Price Stabilization for August 1 and October 1. The combined reduction at retail is to be 9 cents a pound. Live cattle prices are to be reduced about proportionately, or near those of last June.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Hog Slaughter Begins Seasonal Decline

Hog slaughter was unusually stable through the March-May period when marketings from the fall pig crop are largest. Weekly slaughter under Federal inspection in 11 successive weeks beginning the first week in March varied only between 1,118 thousand head and 1,185 thousand. Slaughter began to decline seasonally in mid-May, but by the week ended May 26 it was down only to 1,029 thousand head. Compared with last year, the total number slaughtered under inspection in March-May was up 9 percent. With average slaughter weights a little heavier, pork production was 10 percent larger.

Prices were almost as stable during the 3 months. Weekly averages for barrows and gilts at Chicago moved between a high of $22.12 per 100 pounds and a low of $21.03. Prices have been higher this spring than last and in late May were about $1.75 per 100 pounds above a year earlier.

Hog slaughter is expected to decline seasonally through early summer but to continue larger than last year. Until about the first of September, slaughter will come from the rest of the 1950 fall pig crop and from sows. Probably at least as much, and possibly more, of the fall crop was marketed by June 1 this year as last. However, a larger slaughter of sows is expected this summer, and the pork supply may average 5 to 10 percent larger than last summer. Moreover, if the 1951 spring pig crop turns out about as indicated last December, this degree of increase in pork supplies could continue through the rest of the year.

Prices of hogs are expected to rise seasonally during early summer. The percentage increase may be a little less than average for the season, because of the restrictions of present price ceilings or those that may be put in force. Pork prices are still limited by the ceiling order of January 26, which set each dealer's maximum at the highest price he charged during the December 19-January 25 period. This would restrain any strong upward tendency in hog prices. At present, there are no ceilings on prices of live hogs.

Ceilings on Beef Changed to Dollars-and-cents System

Ceiling prices on beef at wholesale and retail were changed to a dollars-and-cents basis by the Office of Price Stabilization on April 28. The new ceilings at retail are set up as specific prices by grade, cut, class of store and geographic zone. Ceilings at wholesale are detailed by grade and wholesale cut, and are adjusted for location and for type of service given.

The general level of the new retail ceilings on beef is about the same as in April, as some cuts are a little higher in price and others lower.

Between January 26 and early May, ceilings for beef were set in the same manner as those for pork; that is, at each dealer's highest price received for sales of substantial volume during the 5 weeks December 19 to January 25.

Cattle Prices Under an Average Ceiling Limitation

A ceiling price limitation was placed on live cattle by the April 28 order. There is no schedule of live animal ceilings as such, but the general average of cattle prices is limited by a maximum total cost--called drove cost--that slaughterers can pay for the cattle they kill in each accounting period. Each slaughterer calculates his permissable drove cost on the basis of the specified wholesale ceiling prices for his carcasses as they actually grade, weigh, and dress out. In the calculation he lumps steers, cows, heifers, and stags in one category. Bulls alone are a second category.

Each slaughterer is required to stay within his cost maximum as a single total, under penalty of losing part of his slaughter quota. However, he does not have to balance out by class or grade. Thus, he can pay a price higher for some kinds of cattle than the equivalent of wholesale ceilings, but he would have to offset this by under-pricing other cattle.

Cattle prices will thus be free to fluctuate somewhat among grades and from week to week even though their general average level is restrained by the ceiling. Prices are of course free to decline below ceilings.

The ceiling restrictions on live cattle went into effect, for most packers, on June 4. For some firms the first period will be less than their customary accounting period. An accounting period is usually of 4 weeks length.

Ceiling on Cattle Prices about Equal to January Prices

The ceiling limit now in effect on cattle prices is, on the average, about 10 percent less than April prices and about the same as prices in January 1951.

The approximate live-cattle equivalents of wholesale beef ceilings, shown in Table 1, range from $37.00 per 100 pounds for Prime grade (steers and heifers) to $19.50 for Canner and Cutter (cows and stags). These prices are derived by use of approximate average dressing yields. Actual prices will differ to the extent that actual yields differ from those assumed.

Ceilings were placed on live cattle at near the January level, said the Office of Price Stabilization, in order to remove the squeeze on packers and distributors. Their margins had narrowed after January 27 as wholesale and retail prices remained nearly stationary while prices of cattle advanced. The OPS is charged by law with maintaining "fair and equitable" margins for processors in connection with ceilings.

Rollbacks of Beef and Cattle Prices Set for August and October

Prices of beef at retail and wholesale and of live cattle are due to be rolled back on August 1 and again on October 1. Each reduction at retail is to be of 4 to 5 cents. Retail prices after October 1 would thus be 9 cents below their present level, and about equal to those of June 1950.

Table 1.- Price per 100 pounds for slaughter cattle by grades at Chicago, January-May 1951, and approximate live cattle equivalents of wholesale beef price ceilings announced for June and August. 1/

Item	Prime	Choice	Good	Commercial	Utility	Canner and Cutter
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Market prices at Chicago:						
Beef steers, slaughter 2/						
1951 by month Jan.	38.38	34.77	31.88	29.47	27.32	
Feb.	39.45	35.98	33.09	30.96	28.54	
Mar.	40.03	36.67	33.86	31.97	29.96	
Apr.	40.16	36.93	34.49	32.78	30.74	
By weeks ended May 3	39.35	36.57	34.13	32.24	28.81	
" 10	38.82	36.60	34.06	31.50	28.31	
" 17	38.41	36.24	33.83	30.68	27.35	
" 24	38.87	36.79	34.27	31.33	27.96	
Cows, slaughter						
1951 by months Jan.	---	---	---	24.64	23.03	20.17
Feb.	---	---	---	26.88	24.86	21.48
Mar.	---	---	---	27.86	25.46	22.19
Apr.	---	---	---	28.82	26.33	22.55
By weeks ended May 5	---	---	---	28.18	25.58	21.52
" 12	---	---	---	28.12	25.28	20.90
" 19	---	---	---	28.95	25.65	21.32
" 26	---	---	---	29.62	26.42	22.10
Heifers, slaughter 3/						
1951 by months Jan.	36.98	34.43	31.10	28.11		
Feb.	37.33	35.05	32.11	29.50		
Mar.	37.52	35.30	32.64	30.09		
Apr.	37.43	35.88	33.60	31.01		
By weeks ended May 5	36.85	35.18	33.10	30.22		
" 12	36.82	35.55	33.18	29.90		
" 19	37.10	35.58	33.18	29.92		
" 26	37.50	35.92	33.70	30.55		
OPS Ceiling-equivalent price at Chicago 4/						
June-July	37.00	34.20	31.50	27.30	21.80	19.50
August-September	35.50	32.70	30.00	25.80	21.30	19.50

1/ A further rollback is scheduled for October, but no specific prices have been announced.
2/ Corn Belt steers sold out of first hands for slaughter.
3/ Prime and Choice are 600-800 pounds, Good 500-900 pounds, Commercial all weights.
4/ Average for steers, heifers, cows and stags as derived from announced Chicago wholesale ceiling prices at the following drssing yields for the 6 grades starting with Prime: 62, 59, 56, 53, 47, 43.

Prices of live cattle would probably fall in about like proportion. Live-cattle equivalents of wholesale ceilings for August and September are set at $1.50 less than in June and July for the top 4 grades, and $0.50 less for the Utility grade. The Canner and Cutter grades are not to be changed. It has not been announced how much live cattle prices will be rolled back on October 1, but the combined August-October reduction is to be 9 percent. Such a reduction would result in prices of cattle also close to those of June 1950.

The OPS explained that price rollbacks were delayed until August and October in order to give feeders who had bought cattle before April 28, the date of the announcement, a chance to sell them at the mid-summer price.

Record-keeping Required Preparatory to Possible Allocations

A distribution regulation that accompanied the ceiling orders requires that records be kept by slaughterers and processors for use in the event that allocation of meats becomes necessary later on.

Federal Meat Grading Service Extended

Under OPS Distribution Regulation 2 all meat, except pork and meat slaughtered by farmers for their own consumption, must be graded according to standards of the Federal grading system. The Federal meat grading service has been expanded to carry out the grading program assigned it in connection with this regulation. Grading will be done in all types of slaughtering plants, regardless of whether they receive Federal inspection by the Bureau of Animal Industry. In all instances, grading will be performed according to official U. S. standards for grades of carcass meats.

Provision is made in the regulation, as amended, for self-grading of meat when authority is granted after the services of an official grader have been requested but not supplied. Beef so graded cannot be stamped higher than Commercial. Self-grading may also be done without request for official service, but in this case no beef grade higher than Cutter can be assigned. There are similar restrictions on the highest grade assignable in self-grading of veal, calf, lamb, yearling mutton, and mutton.

Thus, all meat except pork cuts now carries a grade stamp. All beef of Good grade or higher, and much of that grading Commercial or lower, has an official stamp--a purple ribbon-like stamp--showing that it was graded by an official grader. Meat that was produced in Federally inspected plants and in other plants with inspection qualifying under grading regulations is stamped "U. S." along with the grade name. Meat produced in other plants will carry only the grade without the "U. S.". The cost of grading will continue to be paid from fees assessed slaughterers.

Cattle Marketings Variable in May, Prices Drop Toward New Ceiling Level

Cattle marketings fluctuated rather sharply week by week in May as producers responded variously to the OPS announcements of April 28 and to price changes. The month's total marketings were moderately larger than in April. The increase was about average for the season. May slaughter probably included some cattle previously planned for sale in later months, but on the other hand some other cattle may have been held off the market in May.

Average weights of Corn Belt steers at Midwest markets show little evidence of many cattle rushed to market at light weights. Only in the week of May 3, the first after the April 28 announcement, were average weights below their previous level. Weights at Chicago the week ending May 24 averaged 1 pound heavier than a month earlier, at Omaha 1 pound lighter, and at Sioux City 8 pounds heavier.

Prices for slaughter steers declined during May. The week ending May 24 prices of beef steers at Chicago by grades were \$0.14 to \$2.78 per 100 pounds below their April average. However, they were not down to the average ceiling level that went into effect in late May and early June. (See table 1.)

Feeder cattle prices in May fell off no more than slaughter steer prices. The average cost of stockers and feeders at Kansas City the week ending May 24 was \$34.09 per 100 pounds, \$1.55 less than the April average and \$6.78 higher than a year earlier. This indicates a strong demand for stockers and feeders in spite of the price ceilings now going into effect and the rollbacks scheduled for later.

Cattle Marketings to Fluctuate, but may Total as Much as Last Year

Cattle marketings are expected to fluctuate more than usual from week to week and perhaps from month to month. Legislative developments will be a factor affecting them. The Defense Production Act of 1950, the basic authority for price controls, is due to expire June 30.

Some reduction in cattle slaughter in June below that otherwise expected is entirely possible. On the other hand, it is seldom profitable to delay marketing fed cattle very long after they reach a high finish. Also, the prospect of a lower price ceiling on August 1 will stimulate marketings before that date. Therefore very small marketings are unlikely in June, and an increase may be expected in July.

Sharply curtailed marketings are to be expected just after the August 1 and October 1 rollback dates.

Cattle slaughter from June through December is likely to total at least as large as in the same period last year. Steer and heifer slaughter will probably be nearly as large as it would be in the absence of price control orders. Some cows otherwise due to be marketed might be held back past December 31, but their numbers might no more than offset the trend toward a larger cattle slaughter this year. The greater number of cattle on farms this year--4.1 million more--would normally be expected to result in some increase in slaughter. Moreover, more cattle have been on feed than last year.

Total Meat Supply for 1951 to Exceed 1950

Production of meat will continue larger than last year, due chiefly to the large production of pork. If cattle slaughter shows a moderate increase, meat consumption per person may rise 2 to 3 pounds above the 144 pounds in 1950.

Table 2.- Price per 100 pounds for Choice grade slaughter steers and heifers at Chicago, by years 1940-49, by months 1950-51 and approximate ceiling price June-September 1951

(Data for cover page)

Period	Steers 1/	Heifers 2/
	Dollars	Dollars
By years		
1940	10.58	9.95
1941	11.50	11.06
1942	14.00	13.27
1943	15.32	14.56
1944	15.80	15.16
1945	16.01	15.31
1946	19.79	18.43
1947	26.94	24.68
1948	31.48	29.98
1949	26.70	25.60
1950	30.16	28.94
By months:		
1950 January	30.52	26.86
February	29.72	26.44
March	28.88	26.46
April	28.35	27.16
May	29.43	28.74
June	29.91	29.36
July	30.46	30.00
August	29.97	29.01
September	30.26	29.20
October	30.08	29.62
November	31.20	31.18
December	33.20	33.25
1951 January	35.03	34.30
February	36.32	35.02
March	36.99	35.33
April	37.34	36.01
May 4/	36.60	35.56
June-July 1951 ceiling	3/ 34.20	
August-September 1951 ceiling	3/ 32.70	

1/ Average of 900-1100 lb. and 1100-1300 lb. slaughter steers.
2/ For 750-900 lb. slaughter heifers 1940 to July 1942, and average of 600-800 and 800-1,000 lb. since July 1942.
3/ Approximate live animal equivalent of announced ceiling prices on Choice beef carcasses at wholesale.
4/ Average for 3 weeks.

Veal supplies per person are likely to equal last year only in occasional months. Lamb and mutton will continue to be in shorter supply than last year.

Early Spring Lamb Development Fairly Good Though Delayed by Poor Pastures

The condition of early spring lambs was generally favorable on May 1 despite cool weather during most of April and slow growth of pastures and ranges in many sections. Drought conditions still persisted over much of the Southwest, retarding lamb development and causing many yearlings to move out of the area in feeder flesh. In the Pacific Northwest dry weather delayed growth of pasture and lambs made slow progress. In the Southeastern States cool wet weather retarded the development of early lambs and will probably result in later marketings than last year. In California, however, early pastures were very good and much of the early lamb crop there has been marketed at better than average weights and finish.

The unfavorable weather has resulted in a May 1 range feed condition below average for each of the 17 Western States. Livestock are generally in good condition except in the dry Southwest, particularly in Texas. There is generally a good calf crop. Late lamb crop prospects are favorable except in areas of extended drought.

World Meat Production at New High in 1950

Meat production during 1950 in the principal livestock countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, is estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at about 72.5 billion pounds. This is an increase of 5 percent from the 1949 output and 6 percent from the 1934-38 prewar average. An outstanding increase in pork production plus slightly larger beef supplies more than offset a decrease in lamb and mutton output.

Output on all continents except South America and Oceania equalled or exceeded that of 1949. The largest gains were reported for Europe and the Soviet Union. Production in Argentina, Uruguay and Australia declined moderately but was still above prewar.

Because of the larger livestock numbers on farms and ranches at the beginning of the year, the outlook appears favorable for a continued rise in world meat production during 1951. The extent of increase will be contingent upon pastures and feed supplies.

Rank of States in Livestock Numbers and Production
by Lucille W. Johnson

Requests are often received for a listing of States according to their relative position in livestock production. The tables that follow provide this information.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 present data showing the relative position of each state in numbers and production of meat animals. Numbers are the January 1, 1951 inventory of cattle and calves and of sheep and lambs on farms, and the 1950 pig crop. Production is the liveweight of farm production in 1950--the total poundage produced on farms and ranches during the year.

Table 3 .- Rank of states in numbers of cattle and calves on farms January 1, 1951

Rank	All cattle and calves: State	All cattle and calves: Number	Beef cattle and calves (Cattle "not for milk"): Total: State	Beef cattle and calves (Cattle "not for milk"): Total: Number	Beef cows 2 years and over: State	Beef cows 2 years and over: Number
		Thousands		Thousands		Thousands
1	Texas	9,260	Texas	7,266	Texas	3,715
2	Iowa	5,203	Iowa	3,443	Nebraska	1,222
3	Nebraska	4,170	Nebraska	3,409	Kansas	1,001
4	Wisconsin	3,918	Kansas	2,961	Oklahoma	843
5	Kansas	3,917	Missouri	1,901	Montana	812
6	Missouri	3,356	South Dakota	1,815	South Dakota	800
7	Minnesota	3,342	Oklahoma	1,760	Iowa	656
8	Illinois	3,317	Illinois	1,715	Florida	644
9	California	2,872	Montana	1,611	Missouri	643
10	Oklahoma	2,814	Colorado	1,509	Colorado	630
11	South Dakota	2,454	California	1,461	New Mexico	615
12	New York	2,248	Florida	1,200	California	597
13	Ohio	2,235	New Mexico	1,103	Louisiana	574
14	Michigan	1,971	Minnesota	1,061	Wyoming	474
15	Indiana	1,848	Louisiana	1,015	Mississippi	458
16	Colorado	1,818	Wyoming	958	Arizona	406
17	Montana	1,815	Mississippi	945	Illinois	402
18	Pennsylvania	1,808	North Dakota	845	North Dakota	366
19	Mississippi	1,791	Kentucky	828	Oregon	352
20	Kentucky	1,721	Arizona	807	Alabama	333
21	Louisiana	1,569	Indiana	803	Nevada	295
22	Tennessee	1,550	Oregon	738	Georgia	283
23	Florida	1,503	Alabama	698	Arkansas	268
24	North Dakota	1,496	Georgia	652	Kentucky	241
25	Alabama	1,476	Tennessee	635	Idaho	224
26	Georgia	1,330	Idaho	612	Tennessee	206
27	Arkansas	1,282	Ohio	609	Indiana	199
28	Virginia	1,197	Arkansas	581	Minnesota	180
29	New Mexico	1,189	Nevada	537	Virginia	177
30	Oregon	1,118	Virginia	463	Utah	176
31	Wyoming	1,041	Washington	384	Washington	142
32	Idaho	986	Utah	382	Ohio	112
33	Washington	885	Michigan	367	West Virginia	83
34	Arizona	883	Wisconsin	315	North Carolina	70
35	North Carolina	788	Pennsylvania	253	Michigan	52
36	Nevada	580	West Virginia	248	South Carolina	36
37	West Virginia	570	North Carolina	205	Pennsylvania	24
38	Utah	560	South Carolina	130	Maryland	21
39	Maryland	471	New York	115	Wisconsin	20
40	Vermont	429	Maryland	94	New York	17
41	South Carolina	396	Maine	20	Maine	5
42	New Jersey	228	Vermont	18	Vermont	2
43	Maine	214	New Jersey	10	Massachusetts	2
44	Massachusetts	177	Connecticut	9	Delaware	2
45	Connecticut	171	Massachusetts	8	New Hampshire	1
46	New Hampshire	117	New Hampshire	8	Connecticut	1
47	Delaware	63	Delaware	6	New Jersey	1
48	Rhode Island	27	Rhode Island	1	------------	--
United States Total		84,179		46,514		18,383

Table 4.- Rank of states in numbers of milk cows and sheep on farms January 1, 1951 and pigs saved 1950.

Rank	Milk cows 2 years and over: State	Number (Thousands)	All sheep and lambs: State	Number (Thousands)	Number pigs saved 1/: State	Number (Thousands)
1	Wisconsin	2,456	Texas	7,119	Iowa	20,759
2	New York	1,483	Wyoming	1,934	Illinois	10,764
3	Minnesota	1,471	Montana	1,870	Indiana	8,234
4	Texas	1,309	California	1,867	Missouri	7,387
5	Iowa	1,158	Colorado	1,645	Minnesota	6,774
6	Ohio	1,060	Utah	1,438	Ohio	5,986
7	Michigan	1,026	New Mexico	1,384	Nebraska	4,261
8	Pennsylvania	1,010	Missouri	1,214	Wisconsin	3,556
9	Missouri	994	Ohio	1,128	Georgia	2,674
10	Illinois	972	Iowa	1,021	Texas	2,457
11	California	885	Idaho	1,020	South Dakota	2,409
12	Indiana	721	South Dakota	893	Kentucky	2,197
13	Oklahoma	648	Nebraska	815	Kansas	2,079
14	Kentucky	640	Kentucky	749	Tennessee	1,975
15	Tennessee	640	Minnesota	737	Alabama	1,765
16	Kansas	634	Kansas	694	North Carolina	1,670
17	Mississippi	554	Oregon	656	Michigan	1,610
18	Virginia	507	Illinois	625	Arkansas	1,404
19	Nebraska	467	Indiana	472	Oklahoma	1,360
20	Alabama	447	Nevada	465	Virginia	1,222
21	Arkansas	435	Michigan	428	Mississippi	1,091
22	Georgia	414	Arizona	385	Louisiana	1,077
23	North Dakota	409	North Dakota	375	Pennsylvania	1,030
24	North Carolina	399	Washington	337	South Carolina	1,026
25	South Dakota	368	West Virginia	311	Florida	977
26	Louisiana	338	Virginia	299	California	911
27	Washington	319	Wisconsin	285	North Dakota	804
28	Vermont	281	Tennessee	270	Colorado	438
29	Maryland	255	Pennsylvania	221	Maryland	382
30	Oregon	235	New York	182	West Virginia	310
31	West Virginia	232	Louisiana	148	New York	290
32	Idaho	220	Oklahoma	145	Oregon	269
33	Colorado	198	Mississippi	106	Idaho	249
34	South Carolina	174	Arkansas	60	Washington	208
35	New Jersey	164	Maryland	49	Montana	208
36	Florida	152	North Carolina	39	New Jersey	133
37	Montana	123	Alabama	23	Utah	125
38	Massachusetts	122	Maine	20	Wyoming	120
39	Maine	120	Georgia	14	Massachusetts	95
40	Connecticut	116	Florida	12	New Mexico	92
41	Utah	112	Vermont	11	Delaware	53
42	New Hampshire	70	New Jersey	10	Connecticut	52
43	New Mexico	57	Massachusetts	9	Maine	50
44	Wyoming	54	New Hampshire	7	Vermont	35
45	Arizona	50	Connecticut	6	Nevada	33
46	Delaware	38	South Carolina	3	Arizona	28
47	Nevada	21	Delaware	2	New Hampshire	16
48	Rhode Island	21	Rhode Island	2	Rhode Island	9
United States Total		24,579		31,505		100,654

1/ Total of pigs saved from spring and fall 1950 pig crops December 1-December 1.

Table 5.- Rank of states in liveweight of farm production of meat animals, 1950 1/

Rank	Cattle and calves: State	Cattle and calves: Production	Sheep and lambs: State	Sheep and lambs: Production	Hogs: State	Hogs: Production
		Mil.lbs.		Mil.lbs.		Mil.lbs.
1	Texas	2,132	Texas	194	Iowa	4,682
2	Iowa	1,652	California	100	Illinois	2,279
3	Nebraska	1,218	Colorado	83	Indiana	1,773
4	Kansas	1,203	Idaho	80	Missouri	1,546
5	Illinois	944	Wyoming	74	Minnesota	1,496
6	Minnesota	935	Missouri	70	Ohio	1,150
7	Missouri	926	Montana	62	Nebraska	940
8	California	860	Iowa	59	Wisconsin	731
9	Wisconsin	811	Utah	58	South Dakota	545
10	Oklahoma	774	Kentucky	48	Texas	497
11	South Dakota	726	Kansas	44	Georgia	442
12	Colorado	538	Minnesota	44	Kansas	429
13	Indiana	517	New Mexico	43	Kentucky	416
14	Montana	499	Ohio	41	Tennessee	389
15	Ohio	491	Nebraska	41	North Carolina	316
16	Michigan	432	Oregon	37	Michigan	313
17	Kentucky	413	South Dakota	37	Alabama	311
18	North Dakota	411	Illinois	34	Oklahoma	282
19	New York	398	Indiana	26	Arkansas	251
20	Pennsylvania	353	Michigan	21	Virginia	245
21	Tennessee	320	Washington	20	Pennsylvania	200
22	New Mexico	301	Nevada	19	Mississippi	198
23	Oregon	290	Virginia	19	South Carolina	191
24	Mississippi	275	West Virginia	17	California	176
25	Wyoming	274	Tennessee	16	North Dakota	169
26	Idaho	253	Arizona	15	Louisiana	159
27	Arkansas	246	North Dakota	15	Florida	125
28	Alabama	241	Wisconsin	14	Colorado	102
29	Louisiana	234	Pennsylvania	7	Maryland	69
30	Virginia	223	New York	6	West Virginia	69
31	Washington	212	Oklahoma	6	Oregon	59
32	Georgia	212	Mississippi	3	New York	58
33	Arizona	192	Maryland	2	Idaho	54
34	Florida	191	Arkansas	2	Washington	46
35	Utah	136	Louisiana	2	Montana	45
36	Nevada	134	North Carolina	2	Utah	27
37	North Carolina	123	Maine	1	New Jersey	26
38	West Virginia	109	Alabama	1	Wyoming	25
39	Maryland	89	New Jersey	1	New Mexico	22
40	South Carolina	60	Vermont	1	Massachusetts	18
41	Vermont	60	Massachusetts	2/	Connecticut	11
42	New Jersey	40	Georgia	2/	Maine	10
43	Maine	37	New Hampshire	2/	Delaware	9
44	Connecticut	33	Florida	2/	Vermont	8
45	Massachusetts	31	Connecticut	2/	Nevada	7
46	New Hampshire	22	Rhode Island	2/	Arizona	6
47	Delaware	11	Delaware	2/	New Hampshire	4
48	Rhode Island	4	South Carolina	2/	Rhode Island	2
United States Total		20,587		1,362		20,927

1/ Liveweight produced during year by livestock on farms. Preliminary data.
2/ Less than 500,000 lbs.

Texas ranks first in numbers of all cattle and calves on farms. The 9,260,000 head there this year not only leads the nation, but also is the largest number reported for that State since 1902.

The principal beef cattle regions are the Great Plains, Corn Belt, and West. Western States tend to specialize in raising calves and steers for sale as feeders, and they maintain large herds of breeding stock. The Corn Belt cattle industry centers more in grain feeding of beef cattle. The grazing area of the Plains States resembles the West in producing feeder stock, though Kansas and Nebraska also have areas where many cattle are fed.

These differences are revealed in the ranking of States. Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota, all Plains States, hold 5 of the 6 top positions in beef cow numbers. They are within the top 7 in numbers of all beef cattle, and they also rank high in liveweight of cattle production. The Western States, led by Montana, Colorado, California and New Mexico, are well up in inventories of beef cows and all beef cattle. Both the Plains States and the Western States rank slightly lower in January inventories of all beef cattle than of beef cows alone, because a substantial part of the young stock raised there is shipped out before January 1--usually to the Corn Belt.

Corn Belt States rank highest when the comparison is of liveweight produced. In contrast with the Plains and West where cattle are sold at light weights, the Corn Belt not only raises and feeds its native cattle to heavy slaughter weights but also puts a big poundage on cattle brought in as feeders. In addition, dairy animals raised in the Corn Belt contribute a sizable annual liveweight production. The Corn Belt States of Iowa, Missouri and Illinois stand high in annual liveweight production of cattle.

Among Southern States east of Texas, the leaders in beef cattle numbers and production are Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Florida stands eighth in numbers of beef cows, and Louisiana thirteenth.

Dairying is most concentrated in the region surrounding the Great Lakes. Wisconsin is the leading state in numbers of milk cows, and New York and Minnesota follow.

Texas far outdistances the other states in its number of sheep and lambs, having 23 percent of the nation's number or about as many as the combined number in the next 4 states, Wyoming, Montana, California, and Colorado.

Iowa leads in the number of pigs saved. The 20,759,000 head in 1950 were twice as many as were saved in Illinois. Iowa has one-fifth of the nation's pig crop.

The ranking of states in size of pig crops varies little from year to year, as the numbers of pigs saved in the different States tend to increase or decrease in line with the national total.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Tables 6 to 13 revise or extend tables previously published in this Situation. Table 7 contains revised prices received by farmers for meat animals in 1950. Tables 8 to 13 give detailed livestock slaughter and meat distribution data for 1950 along with summary tables brought to date.

Table 6 is a series on production and distribution of edible offal that is published annually in this Situation. Edible offal products such as liver, heart, head meat, tongue, tripe, plucks, sweetbreads, and others are not a part of meat production as usually reported but are a significant item in the nation's food supply. Consumption is estimated at a little more than 10 pounds per person per year.

Data on edible offals have a rather large probable error, because production data are derived by applying a constant percentage factor to meat production and because other data such as stocks and foreign trade do not cover all offal products.

A fuller explanation of the offal data may be found in the May 1949 issue.

Table 6.- Edible offals: Supply and distribution, United States, by calendar years, 1934 to date

Year	Supply: Total production 1/	Supply: Beginning commercial stocks 2/	Supply: Imports	Supply: Total supply	Distribution: Ending stocks 2/	Distribution: Commercial exports and shipments	Domestic disappearance: Military	Domestic disappearance: Civilian	Domestic disappearance: Civilian per capita 3/
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Lb.
1934	1,298	65	4/	1,363	126	28	---	1,209	9.5
1935	994	126	1	1,121	74	17	---	1,030	8.0
1936	1,152	74	4/	1,226	132	18	---	1,076	8.3
1937	1,083	132	1	1,216	67	14	---	1,135	8.8
1938	1,130	67	4/	1,197	72	19	---	1,106	8.5
1939	1,200	72	1	1,273	95	19	---	1,159	8.8
1940	1,303	95	2	1,400	102	11	---	1,287	9.7
1941	1,338	102	4	1,444	105	8	---	1,331	10.0
1942	1,498	105	2	1,605	86	11	4/	1,508	11.4
1943	1,669	86	4/	1,755	137	22	2	1,594	12.3
1944	1,740	5/ 97	4/	1,837	37	68	2	1,730	13.4
1945	1,637	37	4/	1,674	41	3	3	1,627	12.5
1946	1,580	41	4/	1,621	56	1	4/	1,564	11.2
1947	1,621	56	4/	1,677	71	9	4/	1,597	11.1
1948	1,490	71	5	1,566	58	1	4/	1,507	10.3
1949	1,507	58	9	1,574	62	2	4/	1,510	10.2
1950	1,530	62	9	1,601	59	3	4/	1,539	10.2

1/ Production of offals as percentage of dressed weight of meat production, including farm: Beef 6.7, veal 10.7, lamb and mutton 5.1, pork excluding lard 6.7 percent.
2/ Trimmings included prior to July 1, 1944; excluded beginning that date.
3/ Calculated from number of persons eating out of civilian supplies July 1 adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years of age.
4/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
5/ Adjusted by 40 million pounds as estimated allowance for trimmings, which were reported in stocks prior to July 1, 1944.

Table 7.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals, by months, 1950-51

Month	Beef cattle		Veal calves		Sheep		Lambs		Hogs		Index number of prices received for meat animals (1910-14=100)	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
January	19.70	27.00	23.20	30.80	9.69	15.20	21.70	30.00	15.10	20.00	286	391
February	20.50	29.00	24.20	33.30	10.30	17.70	23.00	33.30	16.60	22.00	306	425
March	21.20	29.70	24.20	33.50	11.10	19.00	24.00	35.00	16.00	21.20	308	428
April	21.90	30.20	24.50	33.90	11.10	18.10	24.10	34.30	15.70	20.60	312	428
May	23.10	29.50	25.60	33.20	11.00	16.90	24.70	32.60	18.30	20.40	342	418
June	23.70		25.90		10.40		24.80		18.20		342	
July	24.40		26.60		10.40		24.70		20.90		371	
August	24.20		27.40		11.10		25.00		21.70		369	
September	24.60		27.80		11.80		25.70		21.30		372	
October	24.20		27.20		12.90		26.00		19.20		358	
November	24.60		27.60		13.30		26.80		17.80		357	
December	25.20		28.40		13.80		27.60		17.80		360	
Wt. Av.1/	23.20		26.40		11.50		25.10		18.00		340	

1/ Annual State averages weighted by shipments and local slaughter.

Partially revises table A-17 of Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1951.

Table 8. - Meat production and consumption from total United States slaughter, 1899 to date 1/

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork (excluding lard)			All meats			Lard			Population July 1 3/
	Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption 2/		
		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil.
1899	5,522	5,029	67.2	387	387	5.2	487	486	6.5	6,310	5,371	71.8	12,706	11,273	150.7	1,679	954	12.8	74.8
1900	5,628	5,104	67.1	397	397	5.2	493	492	6.5	6,329	5,476	71.9	12,847	11,469	150.7	1,653	1,002	13.2	76.1
1901	5,814	5,266	67.9	422	422	5.4	548	548	7.0	6,357	5,493	70.8	13,141	11,729	151.1	1,650	997	12.8	77.6
1902	5,649	5,148	65.0	476	476	6.0	564	560	7.1	5,936	5,288	66.7	12,625	11,472	144.8	1,493	956	12.1	79.2
1903	6,240	5,711	70.9	492	492	6.1	563	560	6.9	6,067	5,498	68.2	13,362	12,261	152.1	1,529	952	11.8	80.6
1904	6,176	5,719	69.6	491	491	6.0	536	537	6.5	6,387	5,803	70.6	13,592	12,550	152.7	1,638	1,031	12.5	82.2
1905	6,504	5,973	71.3	556	556	6.6	530	529	6.3	6,629	5,945	71.0	14,219	13,003	155.2	1,742	991	11.8	83.8
1906	6,537	6,087	71.3	598	598	7.0	543	542	6.3	6,793	6,065	71.0	14,471	13,292	155.6	1,735	1,002	11.7	85.4
1907	6,544	6,141	70.6	626	626	7.2	553	551	6.3	7,059	6,443	74.1	14,782	13,761	158.2	1,790	1,146	13.2	87.0
1908	6,662	6,393	72.1	637	637	7.2	559	557	6.3	7,535	6,898	77.7	15,393	14,485	163.3	1,911	1,277	14.4	88.7
1909	6,915	6,713	73.5	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.7	6,557	6,065	66.4	14,740	14,044	153.8	1,628	1,127	12.3	91.3
1910	6,647	6,508	69.8	667	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.8	13,998	13,527	145.1	1,553	1,156	12.4	93.2
1911	6,549	6,426	67.9	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.3	6,961	6,482	68.4	14,869	14,264	150.6	1,747	1,138	12.0	94.7
1912	6,234	6,153	64.0	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	66.2	14,453	13,901	144.7	1,658	1,102	11.5	96.1
1913	6,182	6,157	62.8	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.2	6,979	6,501	66.3	14,475	13,968	142.5	1,653	1,073	10.9	98.0
1914	6,017	6,144	61.5	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.6	14,103	13,877	138.9	1,554	1,090	10.9	99.9
1915	6,075	5,668	56.0	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	66.1	14,886	13,561	133.9	1,689	1,198	11.8	101.3
1916	6,460	6,003	58.4	655	656	6.4	585	595	5.8	8,207	7,037	68.4	15,907	14,291	139.0	1,706	1,228	11.9	102.8
1917	7,239	6,687	64.2	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.5	15,501	13,988	134.2	1,451	1,091	10.5	104.2
1918	7,726	7,167	68.0	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.6	17,341	14,811	140.5	1,899	1,291	12.2	105.4
1919	6,756	6,462	61.0	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.4	16,642	14,596	137.8	1,920	1,174	11.1	105.9
1920	6,306	6,293	58.6	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	63.1	15,334	14,469	135.0	1,958	1,319	12.3	107.3
1921	6,022	6,024	55.1	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.1	7,697	7,029	64.3	15,178	14,539	133.0	2,108	1,217	11.1	109.3
1922	6,588	6,503	58.6	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	65.3	16,138	15,162	136.7	2,302	1,503	13.6	110.9
1923	6,721	6,671	59.2	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.3	9,483	8,310	73.7	17,708	16,492	146.3	2,718	1,643	14.6	112.7
1924	6,877	6,786	59.1	972	977	8.5	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.5	17,595	16,810	146.3	2,660	1,663	14.5	114.9
1925	6,878	6,888	59.1	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.2	8,128	7,734	66.3	16,598	16,220	139.1	2,153	1,453	12.5	116.6
1926	7,089	7,074	59.8	955	959	8.1	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.7	16,649	16,199	137.0	2,206	1,465	12.4	118.2
1927	6,395	6,484	54.1	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.3	8,430	8,058	67.3	16,321	16,048	134.0	2,263	1,541	12.9	119.8
1928	5,771	5,872	48.4	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.5	9,041	8,545	70.5	16,248	15,860	130.8	2,458	1,626	13.4	121.3
1929	5,871	6,048	49.3	761	766	6.3	682	686	5.6	8,833	8,484	69.2	16,147	15,984	130.4	2,461	1,598	13.0	122.6
1930	5,917	6,021	48.6	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.7	8,482	8,246	66.6	16,016	15,885	128.3	2,227	1,584	12.8	123.8
1931	6,009	6,025	48.3	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.1	8,739	8,477	67.9	16,456	16,212	129.9	2,307	1,706	13.7	124.8
1932	5,789	5,830	46.4	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	70.3	16,418	16,359	130.2	2,380	1,814	14.4	125.6
1933 4/	6,440	6,469	51.2	891	891	7.1	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	70.3	17,417	17,094	135.3	2,475	1,772	14.0	126.3
1934 4/	8,345	8,066	63.5	1,246	1,182	9.3	851	798	6.3	8,397	8,141	64.0	18,839	18,137	143.1	2,091	1,648	13.0	127.1
1935 4/	6,608	6,770	52.9	1,023	1,087	8.5	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	48.1	14,427	14,935	116.7	1,276	1,226	9.6	128.0
1936 4/	7,358	7,742	60.1	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.6	7,474	7,061	54.8	16,761	16,727	129.3	1,679	1,449	11.2	128.9
1937	6,798	7,107	54.8	1,108	1,108	8.6	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,135	55.4	15,709	16,257	125.4	1,431	1,361	10.5	129.6
1938	6,908	7,058	54.0	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.3	16,479	16,500	126.2	1,723	1,440	11.0	130.7
1939	7,011	7,159	54.4	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.6	8,660	8,474	64.3	17,534	17,493	132.8	2,037	1,671	12.7	131.7
1940	7,175	7,257	54.7	981	981	7.4	876	873	6.6	10,044	9,701	73.0	19,076	18,812	141.7	2,238	1,924	14.5	132.8
1941	8,082	8,021	60.5	1,036	1,005	7.6	923	901	6.8	9,528	9,007	67.9	19,569	18,934	142.8	2,228	1,879	14.2	132.6
1942	8,843	8,049	60.8	1,151	1,084	8.2	1,042	950	7.2	10,876	8,368	63.3	21,912	18,451	139.5	2,401	1,759	13.3	132.3
1943	8,571	6,860	52.9	1,167	1,059	8.2	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	78.5	24,482	18,921	146.0	2,865	1,820	14.0	129.6
1944	9,112	7,146	55.3	1,738	1,594	12.4	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	79.2	25,178	19,327	153.5	3,054	1,824	14.1	129.2
1945	10,275	7,663	59.0	1,661	1,533	11.8	1,054	943	7.3	10,697	8,598	66.3	23,687	18,737	144.4	2,066	1,622	12.5	129.8
1946	9,373	8,533	61.3	1,440	1,379	9.9	970	925	6.6	11,173	10,530	75.6	22,956	21,367	153.4	2,138	1,669	12.0	139.3
1947	10,428	9,913	69.1	1,599	1,540	10.7	802	765	5.4	10,601	10,013	69.8	23,430	22,236	155.0	2,426	1,928	13.4	143.5
1948	9,079	9,157	62.6	1,412	1,373	9.4	750	736	5.0	10,205	9,990	68.4	21,446	21,256	145.4	2,356	2,008	13.7	146.2
1949	9,448	9,429	63.5	1,322	1,299	8.7	607	610	4.1	10,333	10,040	67.6	21,710	21,378	143.9	2,552	1,907	12.8	148.6
1950 5/	9,548	9,522	63.0	1,216	1,192	7.9	599	598	4.0	10,751	10,398	68.8	22,109	21,710	143.7	2,645	2,104	13.9	151.1

1/ Beginning 1940, data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Beginning 1941, consumption is civilian only. Units are carcass weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.
2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.
3/ Beginning 1909, adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years.
4/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs, data for which can be found in The Livestock and Meat Situation for February, 1949, page 23.
5/ Preliminary.

Revises table A-9 of February issue of Livestock and Meat Situation.

Table 9.- Livestock slaughtered and meat and lard produced, by class of slaughter, United States, 1949 and 1950

Year	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Commercial: Total	Farm	Total	Meat production: Commercial: Federally inspected	Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Commercial: Total	Farm	Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle					Beef				
1949	13,222	4,791	18,013	776	18,789	6,998	2,144	9,142	306	9,448
1950	13,103	4,798	17,901	741	18,642	7,051	2,197	9,248	295	9,543
	Calves					Veal				
1949	6,449	4,379	10,828	517	11,345	746	494	1,240	82	1,322
1950	5,850	4,123	9,973	462	10,435	667	470	1,137	79	1,216
	Sheep and lambs					Lamb and mutton				
1949	12,136	1,240	13,376	496	13,872	536	51	587	20	607
1950	11,739	1,113	12,852	442	13,294	534	47	581	18	599
	Hogs					Pork excluding lard				
1949	53,032	10,712	63,744	11,549	75,293	7,352	1,393	8,745	1,588	10,333
1950	56,964	11,540	68,504	10,984	79,488	7,788	1,477	9,265	1,486	10,751
	Lard production 1/					All meat, excluding lard				
1949	1,923	247	2,170	332	2,552	15,632	4,082	19,714	1,996	21,710
1950	2,009	284	2,293	352	2,645	16,040	4,191	20,231	1,878	22,109

1/ Including rendered pork-fat.

Partially revises table A-10 of the Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1951.

Table 10.- Summary of total meat supply and distribution, United States, by quarter-year, 1949-50

Period	Carcass-weight equivalent: Federally inspected: Supply 1/	Ending stocks	Disappearance 2/: Non-civilian 3/	Disappearance 2/: Civilian	Non-inspected disappearance 4/	Civilian consumption: Total	Civilian consumption: Per capita 5/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1949							
Jan.-Mar.	4,680	743	171	3,766	1,712	5,478	37.1
Apr.-June	4,364	508	144	3,712	1,465	5,177	34.9
July-Sept.	4,297	283	146	3,868	1,275	5,143	34.6
Oct.-Dec.	4,732	625	153	3,954	1,626	5,580	37.3
Year	16,539	625	614	15,300	6,078	21,378	143.9
1950							
Jan.-Mar.	4,691	670	124	3,897	1,683	5,580	37.0
Apr.-June	4,491	543	119	3,829	1,480	5,309	35.2
July-Sept.	4,402	336	207	3,859	1,28[illegible]	5,143	34.0
Oct.-Dec.	4,998	670	272	4,056	1,622	5,678	37.5
Year	17,033	670	722	15,641	6,069	21,710	143.7

1/ Production plus imports plus beginning stocks.
2/ Supply minus ending stocks, divided into civilian and non-civilian uses.
3/ Net USDA, Armed Forces, and other war agency purchases, plus commercial exports and shipments.
4/ From non-inspected commercial and farm slaughter. Considered to be entirely civilian consumption.
5/ Based on population eating from civilian supplies, including adjustment for underenumeration of children.

Table 11.- Civilian consumption of meat, total and per capita, by kind, by quarter-year, 1949 and 1950

Year	Beef: Total	Beef: Per capita	Veal: Total	Veal: Per capita	Lamb and mutton: Total	Lamb and mutton: Per capita	Pork, excluding lard: Total	Pork, excluding lard: Per capita	All meat: Total	All meat: Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1949										
Jan.-Mar.	2,360	16.0	296	2.0	173	1.2	2,649	17.9	5,478	37.1
Apr.-June	2,365	16.0	302	2.0	122	0.8	2,388	16.1	5,177	34.9
July-Sept.	2,435	16.4	352	2.4	155	1.0	2,201	14.8	5,143	34.6
Oct.-Dec.	2,269	15.1	349	2.3	160	1.1	2,802	18.8	5,580	37.3
Total	9,429	63.5	1,299	8.7	610	4.1	10,040	67.6	21,378	143.9
1950										
Jan.-Mar.	2,347	15.6	291	1.9	158	1.0	2,784	18.5	5,580	37.0
Apr.-June	2,369	15.7	290	1.9	145	1.0	2,505	16.6	5,309	35.2
July-Sept.	2,413	15.9	314	2.1	150	1.0	2,266	15.0	5,143	34.0
Oct.-Dec.	2,393	15.8	297	2.0	145	1.0	2,843	18.7	5,678	37.5
Total	9,522	63.0	1,192	7.9	598	4.0	10,398	68.8	21,710	143.7

Table 12 .- Livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-year, 1950

Period and item	Cattle: Number	Cattle: Beef produced, Per head	Cattle: Beef produced, Total	Calves: Number	Calves: Veal produced, Per head	Calves: Veal produced, Total	Sheep and lambs: Number	Sheep and lambs: Lamb & mutton produced, Per head	Sheep and lambs: Lamb & mutton produced, Total	Hogs: Number	Hogs: Pork produced 1/, Per head	Hogs: Pork produced 1/, Total	Total meat produced
	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
January-March													
Federally inspected	3,123	544	1,691	1,494	101	150	2,879	49	140	15,055	135	2,024	4,005
Other wholesale and retail	1,173	460	540	1,081	105	113	248	44	11	3,244	125	407	1,071
April-June													
Federally inspected	3,100	545	1,682	1,475	109	160	2,793	46	127	12,809	139	1,772	3,741
Other wholesale and retail	1,171	461	540	1,024	114	117	283	42	12	2,618	126	331	1,000
July-September													
Federally inspected	3,450	538	1,842	1,415	132	186	3,099	44	135	11,077	143	1,582	3,745
Other wholesale and retail	1,259	455	573	1,024	122	125	321	40	13	2,394	129	310	1,021
October-December													
Federally inspected	3,430	538	1,836	1,466	117	171	2,968	45	132	18,023	134	2,410	4,549
Other wholesale and retail	1,195	455	544	994	116	115	261	38	11	3,284	131	429	1,099
Year													
Federally inspected	13,103	541	7,051	5,850	115	667	11,739	46	534	56,964	137	7,788	16,040
Other wholesale and retail	4,798	458	2,197	4,123	114	470	1,113	42	47	11,540	128	1,477	4,191
Farm	741	399	295	462	170	79	442	40	18	10,984	135	1,486	1,878
Total	18,642	512	9,543	10,435	117	1,216	13,294	45	599	79,488	135	10,751	22,109

1/ Excludes lard.

Table 13.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1950

Item	Carcass-weight equivalent: Beef: Jan.-Mar.	Beef: April-June	Beef: July-Sept.	Beef: Oct.-Dec.	Beef: Year	Veal: Jan.-Mar.	Veal: April-June	Veal: July-Sept.	Veal: Oct.-Dec.	Veal: Year	Lamb and mutton: Jan.-Mar.	Lamb and mutton: April-June	Lamb and mutton: July-Sept.	Lamb and mutton: Oct.-Dec.	Lamb and mutton: Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Federally inspected															
Supply															
Beginning stocks	121	102	80	81	121	16	10	7	8	16	14	11	7	6	14
Production	1,691	1,682	1,842	1,836	7,051	150	160	186	171	667	140	127	135	132	534
Imports	55	68	100	99	322	1	4	4	1	10	1/	1/	1/	3	3
Total	1,867	1,852	2,002	2,016	7,494	167	174	197	180	693	154	138	142	141	551
Distribution															
Non-civilian															
Net armed forces ..	45	50	97	104	296	3	6	13	12	34	1	1	2	2	6
Commercial exports and shipments	5	5	7	4	21	1/	1	1	1/	2	1	1/	1/	1	2
Total	50	55	104	108	317	3	7	14	12	36	2	1	2	3	8
Ending stocks	102	80	81	147	147	10	7	8	14	14	11	7	6	10	10
Civilian residual ...	1,715	1,737	1,817	1,761	7,030	154	160	175	154	643	141	130	134	128	533
Non-Federally inspected Civilian consumption 2/	632	632	596	632	2,492	137	130	139	145	549	17	15	16	17	65
Total civilian consumption	2,347	2,369	2,413	2,393	9,522	291	290	314	297	1,192	158	145	150	145	598
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	15.6	15.7	15.9	15.8	63.0	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.0	7.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0

For footnotes see next page.

-Continued.

Table 13 .- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-year, 1950 (Cont'd.)

Item	Carcass-weight equivalent: Pork excluding lard: Jan.-Mar.	April-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year	All meats: Jan.-Mar.	April June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Year
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
Federally inspected										
Supply										
Beginning stocks	474	547	469	241	474	625	670	543	336	625
Production	2,024	1,772	1,582	2,410	7,788	4,005	3,741	3,745	4,549	16,040
Imports	5	8	10	10	33	61	80	114	113	368
Total	2,503	2,327	2,061	2,661	8,295	4,691	4,491	4,402	4,998	17,033
Distribution										
Non-civilian										
Net armed forces	40	29	64	118	251	89	86	176	236	587
Commercial exports and shipments	29	27	23	31	110	35	33	31	36	135
Total	69	56	87	149	361	124	119	207	272	722
Ending stocks	547	469	241	499	499	670	543	336	670	670
Civilian residual	1,887	1,802	1,733	2,013	7,435	3,897	3,829	3,859	4,056	15,641
Non-Federally inspected										
Civilian consumption 2/	897	703	533	830	2,963	1,683	1,480	1,284	1,622	6,069
Total civilian consumption	2,784	2,505	2,266	2,843	10,398	5,580	5,309	5,143	5,678	21,710
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Civilian consumption per person	18.5	16.6	15.0	18.7	68.8	37.0	35.2	34.0	37.5	143.7

1/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
2/ Preliminary estimate.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-April Av. 1950	Jan.-April Av. 1951	1950 April	1951 March	1951 April	1951 May
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	33.67	39.50	30.94	40.03	40.16	
Choice	do.	27.58	36.09	27.66	36.67	36.93	
Good	do.	24.50	(33.33	25.21	(33.86	34.49	
Commercial	do.		(31.30		(31.97	32.78	
Utility	do.	21.78	29.14	22.99	29.96	30.74	
All grades	do.	26.10	35.14	26.94	35.62	35.95	
Omaha, all grades	do.	24.70	34.03	25.62	34.42	34.76	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	24.85	34.02	26.04	34.40	34.79	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	19.26	27.05	20.62	27.86	28.82	
Utility	do.	16.84	24.92	17.85	25.46	26.33	
Canner and Cutter	do.	14.61	21.60	15.27	22.19	22.55	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.18	37.63	29.46	36.65	39.30	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	24.54	34.26	25.79	35.12	35.64	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	20.82	28.98	21.90	29.70	30.20	
Veal calves	do.	24.02	32.88	24.50	33.50	33.90	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	16.44	21.20	15.80	21.16	20.75	
180-200 pounds	do.	16.75	21.97	16.32	21.89	21.36	
200-220 pounds	do.	16.80	22.06	16.52	22.12	21.56	
220-240 pounds	do.	16.60	21.97	16.52	22.11	21.55	
240-270 pounds	do.	16.26	21.74	16.41	22.02	21.48	
270-300 pounds	do.	15.90	21.38	16.20	21.76	21.19	
All weights	do.	16.28	21.68	16.33	21.94	21.33	
Seven markets 3/	do.	16.26	21.39	16.25	21.66	21.02	
Sows, Chicago	do.	14.07	18.93	14.67	19.54	19.02	
Price received by farmers	do.	15.85	20.95	15.70	21.20	20.60	
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.2	12.2	11.5	12.4	11.9	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.3	13.2	12.5	13.2	12.7	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	13.11	22.06	13.18	23.21	22.24	
Price received by farmers	do.	10.55	17.50	11.10	19.00	18.10	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	25.48	38.30	26.54	40.93	39.17	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	5/25.12	6/33.62	---	---	---	
Price received by farmers	do.	23.20	33.15	24.10	35.00	34.30	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		303	418	312	428	428	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	43.02	55.68	43.82	55.74	56.51	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	49.04	55.24	51.55	55.15	56.62	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	17.94	23.38	17.98	23.85	22.74	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	24.63	32.10	24.68	32.74	31.22	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	21.00	26.43	20.98	26.69	25.91	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.44	37.06	29.42	37.42	36.33	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	67.4	84.6	68.1	84.8	85.4	
Lamb	do.	65.4	74.6	69.2	73.5	76.0	
Pork, including lard	do.	36.4	45.0	36.6	45.5	45.1	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		213.3	271.0	214.9	273.7	274.1	
Retail (1935-39=100)7/		221.7	270.3	224.6	271.9	272.5	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Average for January, February and March.
6/ Price for January only.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-April 1950	January-April 1951	1950 April	1951 March	1951 April	1951 May
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		135	142	122	131	144	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	514	584	128	131	161	
Sheep and lambs	do.	425	480	98	93	157	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	4,082	3,906	959	965	894	
Calves	do.	1,988	1,661	494	447	406	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,713	3,193	834	736	657	
Hogs	do.	19,371	20,849	4,316	5,117	4,989	
Percentage sows	Percent	10	5	11	5	6	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	995	1,013	991	1,007	1,004	
Calves	do.	181	175	181	162	169	
Sheep and lambs	do.	102	103	100	105	104	
Hogs	do.	240	245	238	240	242	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	546	557	551	557	560	
Veal, per head	do.	102	99	102	94	97	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	49	49	48	50	50	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	134	136	133	134	135	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	56	
Lard, per head	do.	35	36	35	34	35	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	15	14	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,216	2,165	526	535	499	
Veal	do.	200	163	50	42	39	
Lamb and mutton	do.	180	156	40	37	33	
Pork 2/	do.	2,598	2,823	574	684	672	
Lard	do.	684	745	151	176	173	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	5,619	5,329	1,323	1,301	1,227	
Calves	do.	3,409	2,851	834	761	678	
Sheep and lambs	do.	4,049	3,441	922	798	720	
Hogs	do.	23,525	25,239	5,226	6,168	5,965	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,925	2,846	694	696	658	
Veal	do.	350	287	87	73	67	
Lamb and mutton	do.	194	165	44	39	35	
Pork 2/	do.	3,120	3,381	688	817	795	
Lard	do.	786	849	174	201	196	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	100	149	131	111
Veal	do.	---	---	10	8	8	7
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	11	9	8	5
Pork	do.	---	---	549	642	648	643
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	778	918	906	877

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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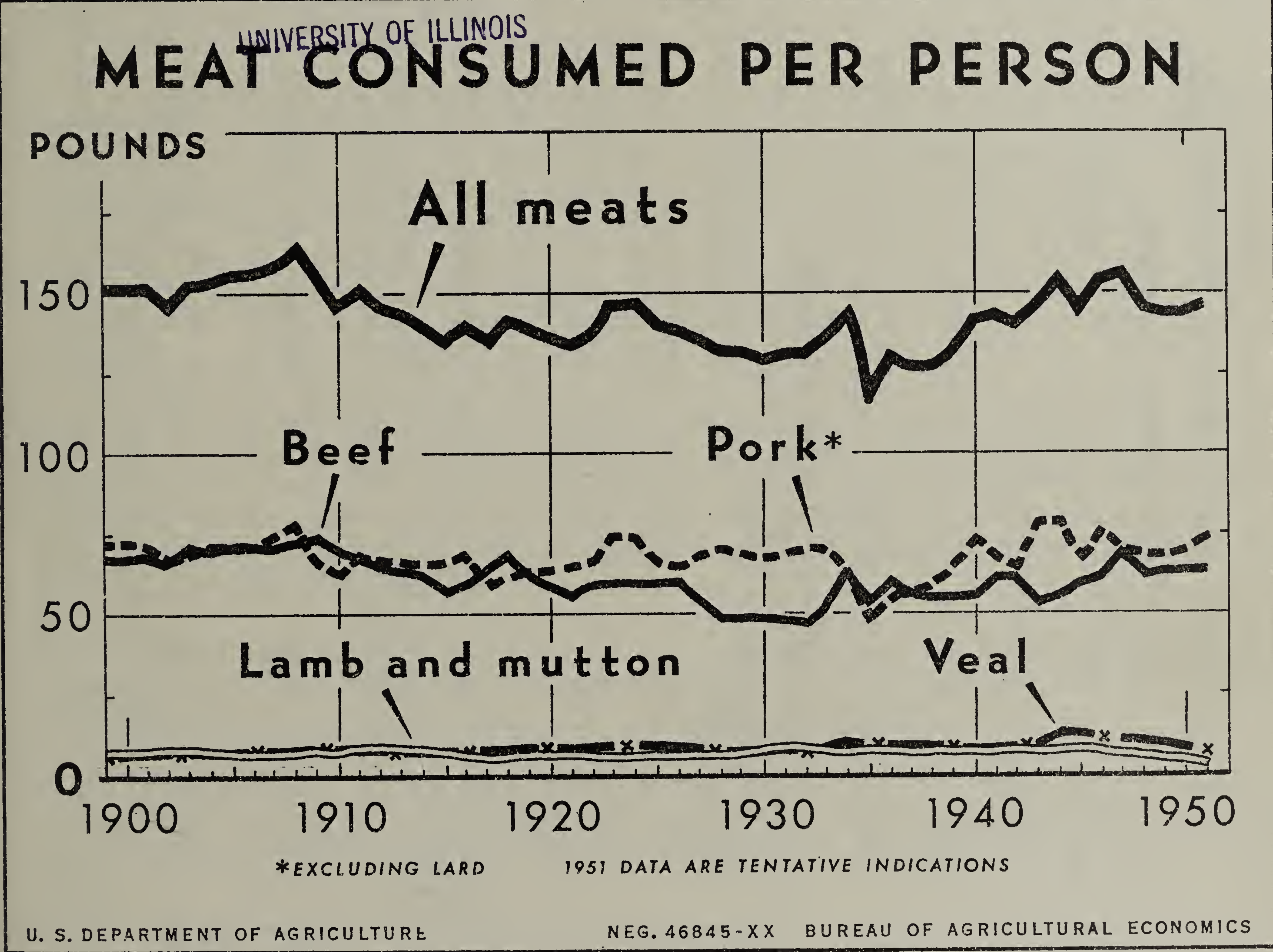
JULY 12, A. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

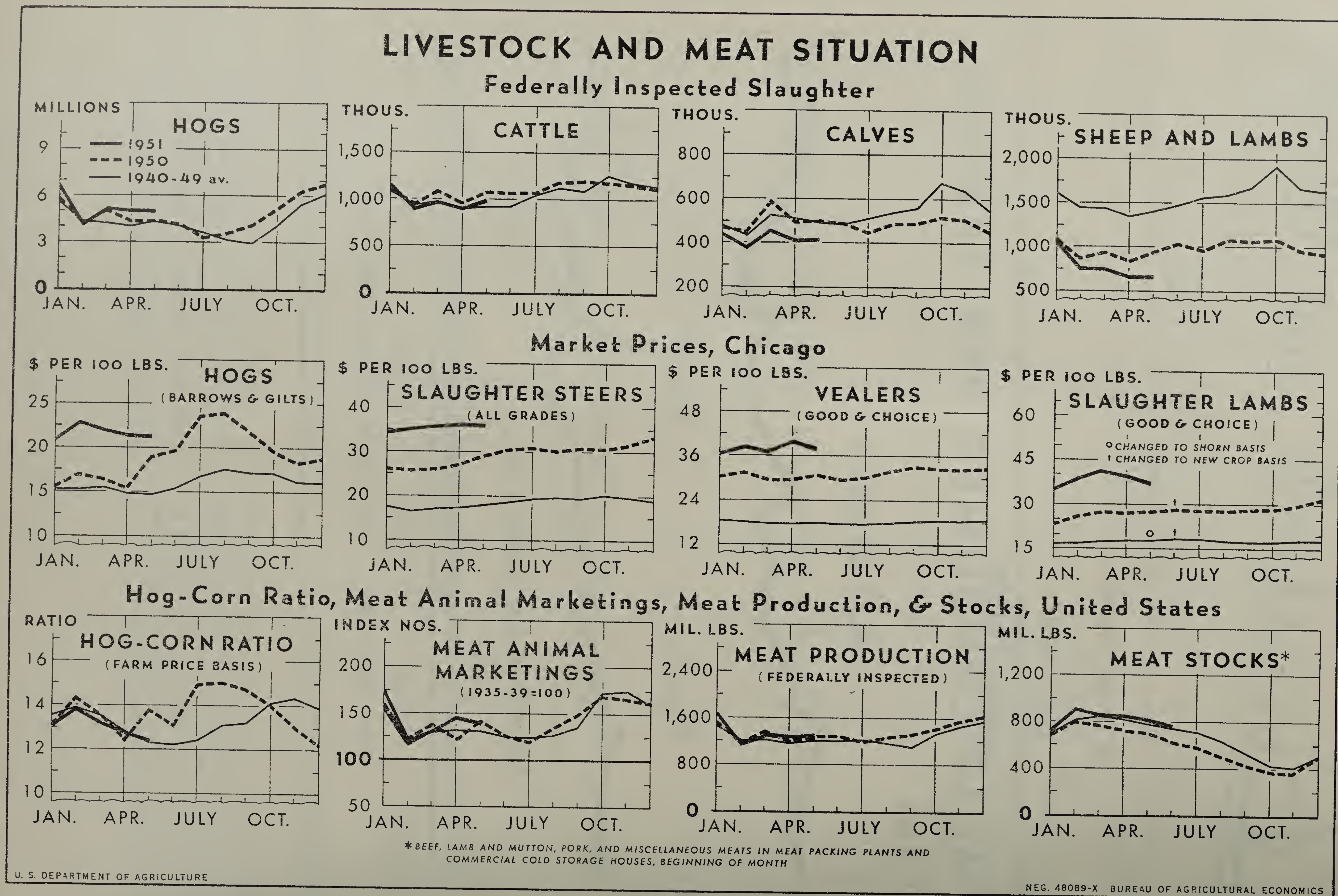
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-52 BAE JUNE 1951



More pork is being consumed per person this year than last. Beef consumption has been lower to date but may about equal last year in the second half. Consumption of veal and of lamb and mutton has been smaller than last year and will likely remain smaller.

Meat consumption per person was steady at about 144 pounds annually from 1948 to 1950. In the first half of 1951 it was a little less than that annual rate (corrected for seasonal), but in the second half may be a little more. The 1951 total may reach 146 pounds.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
40
30
20
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
200
150
100
50
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, June 28, 1951

SUMMARY

Hog production is still increasing. The 1951 spring pig crop was 63.8 millions, 7 percent more than last year, and a 1951 fall pig crop of 42 millions, up 3 percent from last year, was indicated by farmers' intentions on June 1. A 1951 total crop of nearly 106 million pigs would be 5 percent larger than the 1950 crop of 100.5 million and the second largest crop on record. The annual pig crop has increased each year since 1946, when 83 million pigs were saved.

Abundant feed supplies, coupled with strong demand for meat, is largely responsible for the uptrend in hog production. Although feed supplies are still large, this year for the first time in three years more corn is being used than was produced, and the carry-over reserve is being reduced. The price of corn is higher than in several years, and the hog-corn price ratio this spring has been lower than in either last year or two years ago though still above average. This gradual tightening of the feed supply and reduction of the hog-corn price ratio largely accounts for the rather small gain of 3 percent farmers plan for the fall pig crop.

Pork production in January-June was about 9 percent above the same period last year. A 5 to 10 percent larger production is expected this summer than last, and a similar increase over a year earlier may continue when hog marketings begin this fall from the spring pig crop. Not until March of next year, when pork production will be governed by the size of the 1951 fall crop, will the increase be less.

Beef production in the first half of 1951 was around 6 percent less than the previous year, but in the second half it is expected to rise above a year earlier. A continued gain is likely next year.

Cattle marketings increased in the latter part of June after dipping to a low in the week ending June 9. Marketings may continue somewhat variable in weeks and months ahead. They are expected to be larger in July than in June.

Cattle prices declined somewhat in June. Prices at Chicago in late June for the top grades were considerably below the May average, but for the lower grades were close to the average for May.

Hog prices advanced seasonally in June, and a further rise is likely. However, the total seasonal increase will probably be less than usual because of the ceiling prices on pork.

In a 1-month extension of the Defense Production Act of 1950, authority was given for continuing in July the price and slaughter controls on livestock and meat that were in effect the last of June.

Table 1.- Number of sows farrowing, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States and by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1943-51

SPRING PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
				Sows farrowing			
1937-41 av.	140	2,016	3,417	580	1,069	312	7,534
1943	210	2,947	5,997	818	1,686	516	12,174
1944	198	2,416	4,301	772	1,227	332	9,246
1945	154	2,129	4,111	620	1,024	260	8,298
1946	144	2,169	3,876	639	1,027	254	8,109
1947	157	2,313	4,266	670	1,003	243	8,652
1948	148	2,113	3,761	653	1,019	270	7,964
1949	161	2,412	4,395	688	1,125	273	9,054
1950	140	2,582	4,654	717	1,135	245	9,473
1951 1/	147	2,647	4,923	765	1,125	266	9,873
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	886	12,961	21,472	3,377	6,157	1,948	46,801
1943	1,304	18,252	36,899	4,720	9,907	3,141	74,223
1944	1,316	15,193	25,568	4,482	7,162	2,033	55,754
1945	1,000	14,176	25,756	3,635	6,003	1,619	52,189
1946	984	14,559	25,324	3,779	6,130	1,616	52,392
1947	1,019	14,278	26,031	3,956	5,992	1,526	52,802
1948	985	14,066	24,348	3,969	6,212	1,686	51,266
1949	1,092	16,034	28,340	4,215	6,996	1,749	58,426
1950	904	16,357	29,465	4,478	7,058	1,539	59,801
1951 1/	987	17,386	31,934	4,777	7,036	1,698	63,818
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.32	6.45	6.30	5.82	5.76	6.24	6.22
1943	6.21	6.19	6.15	5.77	5.88	6.09	6.10
1944	6.63	6.29	5.94	5.81	5.84	6.12	6.03
1945	6.52	6.66	6.27	5.87	5.86	6.22	6.29
1946	6.79	6.71	6.53	5.91	5.97	6.35	6.46
1947	6.49	6.17	6.10	5.90	5.97	6.27	6.10
1948	6.63	6.66	6.47	6.08	6.10	6.24	6.44
1949	6.80	6.65	6.45	6.13	6.22	6.39	6.45
1950	6.46	6.34	6.33	6.25	6.22	6.27	6.31
1951 1/	6.74	6.57	6.49	6.24	6.25	6.39	6.46
				FALL PIG CROP			
				Sows farrowing			
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1937-41 av.	127	1,471	1,480	507	963	254	4,802
1943	220	2,247	2,463	771	1,454	410	7,565
1944	135	1,536	1,544	552	914	201	4,882
1945	139	1,705	1,848	558	976	200	5,426
1946	120	1,515	1,446	589	883	160	4,713
1947	119	1,566	1,534	598	908	182	4,907
1948	125	1,631	1,704	575	923	200	5,158
1949	122	1,849	1,968	605	981	201	5,726
1950	117	2,015	2,232	609	967	177	6,117
1951 2/	124	2,032	2,411	648	957	202	6,374
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	844	9,756	9,400	3,051	5,769	1,608	30,428
1943	1,445	14,489	15,469	4,696	8,917	2,568	47,584
1944	909	10,164	9,782	3,276	5,500	1,274	30,905
1945	919	11,224	11,761	3,401	6,007	1,281	34,593
1946	808	10,194	9,574	3,597	5,382	993	30,548
1947	822	10,258	9,760	3,668	5,668	1,169	31,345
1948	864	11,066	11,280	3,591	5,834	1,286	33,921
1949	827	12,250	12,871	3,759	6,242	1,313	37,262
1950	806	13,597	15,008	3,836	6,268	1,142	40,657
1951 2/							42,000
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.63	6.63	6.34	6.02	5.99	6.31	6.33
1943	6.56	6.45	6.28	6.09	6.13	6.26	6.29
1944	6.71	6.62	6.35	5.94	6.02	6.35	6.33
1945	6.63	6.58	6.30	6.10	6.15	6.41	6.38
1946	6.76	6.73	6.62	6.11	6.10	6.23	6.48
1947	6.88	6.55	6.36	6.13	6.24	6.45	6.39
1948	6.90	6.78	6.62	6.25	6.32	6.42	6.58
1949	6.80	6.62	6.54	6.22	6.36	6.55	6.51
1950	6.89	6.75	6.72	6.30	6.48	6.48	6.65
1951 2/							6.60

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of June 1, 1951; average number of pigs per litter adjusted for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Spring Pig Crop Up 7 Percent

The 1951 spring pig crop was 63.8 million head, 7 percent larger than the 1950 crop. It was the largest spring crop for a peacetime year and second only to the wartime 1943 crop. Four percent more sows farrowed than in 1950, and the average size of litter increased from 6.31 pigs last year to 6.46 pigs this year. Weather in the Corn Belt at the time of peak farrowings was a little more favorable this year than last.

The spring crop was about the same as had been indicated by farmers' intentions last December.

Farrowings were early again this year. A larger percentage of the spring litters came in December, January, and February this year than last. The percentage in March was down from a year earlier, and the total of 50.2 percent for the 4 months December through March was about the same as a year earlier but above the prewar average of 46.3 percent for those months.

Fall Pig Crop Promises to be 3 Percent Above Last Fall

Farmers intentions on June 1 were for 4 percent more sows to farrow this fall than last. At an average size of litter adjusted for trend, the fall crop would be 42.0 million, 3 percent more than last fall.

This is the fifth successive year of increase in hog production. The 1951 total pig crop of 105.8 million now in prospect is almost 23 million head or 28 percent larger than the 1946 crop. The biggest jump in the annual crop was the 12 percent increase which followed the all-time record 1948 corn crop of 3,682 million bushels.

There are signs that hog production will soon level off. More than a third of the increase in the 1951 spring pig crop resulted from larger litters. Numbers of sows farrowing in both 1951 crops combined may be up 4 percent from last year. This increase is less than the 6 percent in 1950 and 13 percent in 1949. Moreover, the 3 percent gain in prospect for the 1951 fall pig crop is much smaller than the 9 percent gain last fall.

Abundant Feed Supplies Big Factor in Rising Hog Production

Following harvest of the 1948 crops feed supplies were abundant for the livestock on farms. Demand for meat and other livestock products was strong. The hog-corn price ratio was favorable for hog production.

The corn crops of 1949 and 1950, though very large, were smaller than the 1948 crop. Meanwhile livestock production has increased and livestock numbers are now more nearly in line with the feed supply. In fact, the use of corn in the 1950-51 feeding year is estimated at about 3.3 million bushels, 200 million bushels more than were produced in 1950. As a result the carry-over will be lowered from the 860 million bushels last October to about 650 to 700 million bushels next October.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, spring season, United States, average 1937-41 and annual 1947-51

Year	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total
	Number of sows farrowing						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	290.	409	791	1,999	2,605	1,440	7,534
1947	301	393	914	2,475	3,063	1,506	8,652
1948	263	367	762	2,150	2,874	1,548	7,964
1949	303	467	988	2,623	3,090	1,583	9,054
1950	272	451	1,139	2,884	3,151	1,576	9,473
1951	315	525	1,292	2,822	3,164	1,755	9,873
	Percentage of total sows farrowing						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	3.9	5.4	10.5	26.5	34.6	19.1	100.0
1947	3.5	4.5	10.6	28.6	35.4	17.4	100.0
1948	3.3	4.6	9.6	27.0	36.1	19.4	100.0
1949	3.3	5.2	10.9	29.0	34.1	17.5	100.0
1950	2.9	4.8	12.0	30.4	33.3	16.6	100.0
1951	3.2	5.3	13.1	28.6	32.0	17.8	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.

Prices of corn have increased substantially since a year ago. The average price received by farmers in mid-May this year was $1.64 per bushel, 30 cents or 22 percent more than in May 1950. Hog prices also are higher than last year, but by a smaller percentage. The $20.40 per 100 pounds received by farmers in mid-May was $2.10 or 11 percent above a year before. The hog-corn ratio in May thus was down to 12.4, still above the long-run average but less than the 13.7 in May last year and 14.7 in May 1949.

1951 Feed Grain Crops Important to Future Hog Production

Production of hogs as well as other grain-consuming livestock can continue at its present high level or expand further only if feed crops are large. This is true despite the sizable carry-overs of corn and other feed grains that will remain on hand this fall. In order to encourage feed grain production, an acreage guide of 90 million acres of corn was announced by the Department of Agriculture this spring. The first report on the acreage and condition of the crop will be made July 10.

A big corn crop in 1951 might result in a larger fall pig crop than now expected, and would be favorable for a larger 1952 spring crop. A small 1951 corn crop would have opposite effects.

Hog Slaughter to Continue Above Last Year

Hog slaughter in June was seasonally smaller than in May but substantially larger than in June last year. Preliminary weekly data for June inspected slaughter indicate an increase of around 10 percent over

June 1950. June hog slaughter included substantially more barrows and gilts than were slaughtered in June last year but probably fewer sows. The seasonal increase in sow marketings has been slower this summer than in either of the last two. Receipts of sows at 7 markets in the three weeks ending June 23 were 13 percent less than a year earlier.

Greater numbers of sows and of barrows and gilts are likely to be slaughtered this summer than last and pork production may be 5 to 10 percent larger. In addition, cold storage holdings of pork are up from last year--on June 1 they were 120 million pounds or 24 percent larger. The quantity of pork in cold storage is usually reduced greatly during the summer. With more pork both from current production and from storage, supplies of pork will continue considerably larger this summer than a year ago.

Pork supplies next fall will again show a considerable gain over last year. They will increase seasonally starting in September, when marketings begin from the 1951 spring pig crop. Pork production during the fall and winter season will be up about in proportion to the 7 percent increase in the spring pig crop.

If the 1951 fall pig crop turns out as now indicated, pork production during the marketing season for that crop in the spring and summer of 1952 will be only moderately larger than in those seasons this year.

<u>Hog Prices Rise</u>
<u>Seasonally in June</u>

Prices of barrows and gilts at 7 markets at the end of June were about $1.00 per 100 pounds higher than at the beginning of the month. A further rise in hog prices is likely. The total seasonal increase may nevertheless be a little less than usual, because it will be limited by the price ceiling on pork. Retail and wholesale ceilings on pork were imposed last January 27. They are the highest prices charged by each dealer for volume sales during the December 19-January 26 base period.

Prices of hogs have not been put under control.

<u>Cattle Slaughter Dips,</u>
<u>Then Rises in June;</u>
<u>Prices Decline Moderately</u>

Cattle slaughter fell off sharply the week ending June 9, the first week in the accounting period for compliance by packers with the overall cattle price ceiling. Slaughter increased later in the month but continued below last year. (Table 3.)

Price changes under the new ceiling limitations were moderate. Prices of Prime steers at Chicago in late June were $1.50 per 100 pounds below their May average, but declines for lower grades were generally less. However, prices for all kinds of cattle in June were below their highest points reached in late winter or early spring.

Prices of cattle are controlled indirectly through a limit on the total cost packers may pay for all their purchases within an accounting period. The maximum cost for each packer is computed by applying wholesale ceiling prices to his carcasses as they actually grade, weigh, and dress out.

Cattle prices at Chicago under the ceiling limitations were somewhat higher than the representative ceiling-equivalent prices computed by the Office of Price Stabilization. Choice steers and heifers, for instance, averaged about $35.50 per 100 pounds at Chicago in June, compared with the $34.20 ceiling-equivalent price derived from an assumed dressing yield of 59 percent. (Table 4.)

The estimated ceiling-equivalent prices were derived from wholesale ceilings on beef by use of assumed average dressing percentages. Insofar as cattle of each grade dress out on the average to a higher percentage than was assumed by OPS, prices higher than the estimates are permitted.

Moreover, the freight allowance in the ceiling pricing formulae will sometimes permit relatively high prices for cattle slaughter in regions outside the Western Corn Belt. In the wholesale ceiling price on carcass beef there is, for most regions, an allowance for the freight rate from Omaha plus 15 percent (in the West, from Denver). As converted to the live cattle price, this freight differential is somewhat more than the price difference that usually prevails.

Table 3.- Cattle slaughter and market prices, by weeks, April-June 1951

Week ended	Number cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection	Price of cattle for slaughter, Chicago, per 100 pounds: Steers, Choice 1/	Heifers, Choice 600-800 pounds	Cows: Commercial	Cows: Utility	Price of Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City, per 100 pounds
	1,000 head	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
April 7	211	36.27	35.18	28.28	26.00	37.25
April 14	212	36.81	35.90	28.78	26.18	37.85
April 21	217	36.96	35.95	29.10	26.58	38.00
April 28	221	37.52	36.50	29.12	26.55	38.25
May 5	232	36.57	35.18	28.18	25.58	36.20
May 12	205	36.60	35.55	28.12	25.28	36.00
May 19	232	36.24	35.58	28.95	25.65	35.75
May 26	218	36.79	35.92	29.62	26.42	36.12
June 2	202	36.74	35.88	29.69	26.50	36.31
June 9	155	35.76	35.25	29.10	25.48	36.02
June 16	155	35.96	35.25	29.30	25.55	36.00
June 23	188	35.44	34.68	29.32	25.08	35.50
June 30	188	35.57	34.58	28.58	24.42	35.50

1/ Corn Belt steers sold out of first hands.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administratio

Table 4.- Approximate live-cattle equivalent at Chicago of ceiling prices on carcass beef at wholesale announced for June and August 1/

Month of announced ceiling	Ceiling-equivalent price per 100 pounds, by grade					
	Prime	Choice	Good	Commercial	Utility	Canner and Cutter
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
une-July	37.00	34.20	31.50	27.30	21.80	19.50
ugust-September	35.50	32.70	30.00	26.00	21.60	19.50
ctober and later	Reduction reported as average of 4 1/2 percent. No price data announced.					

/ Average for steers, heifers, cows and stags as derived from announced Chicago holesale ceiling prices at the following dressing yields for the 6 grades starting with Prime: 62, 59, 56, 53, 47, 43.
his table corrects two errors in Table 1 of this Situation for May 1951

It is of course possible that in paying the relatively high prices in June some slaughterers exceeded their cost limits.

Cattle Slaughter to be Larger in July; Legislation still an Influence

Price control regulations and legislative developments will continue to influence cattle marketings and slaughter. The Defense Production Act of 1950, the authority for controls, was extended on June 30 for the month ending July 31. The temporary measure does not affect the status of the rollbacks in prices of beef and cattle scheduled for August 1 and October 1. The rollbacks can be carried out only if authorized by new legislation.

Cattle slaughter in July is expected to be larger than in June. It will include some cattle that were held off the market during the weeks of very small slaughter in early June.

Cattle Slaughter in Second Half of 1951 Likely to Exceed Year Earlier

It is likely that more cattle will be slaughtered in the second half of 1951 than in the same period of 1950. However, there is considerable uncertainty as to the most probable total size of second-half slaughter. The rate of slaughter to date this year indicates that a very great number of cattle are being withheld for a further increase in herds. It is possible that cattle slaughter will not show as much increase in the latter part of 1951 as seemed likely earlier in the year, and that a very substantial number of cattle will be added to inventories next January 1.

If cattle and calf slaughter in the second half of the year should be no larger than a year before, inventories could rise by as many as 6 1/2 to 7 million head. With as many as 1 million more slaughtered, inventories could go up 5 1/2 to 6 million. In 1950, cattle inventories were increased 4 million head.

It appears that most of the reduction in cattle slaughter this spring compared with last represents more young cattle retained on range and pasture. Marketings of fed cattle from the heart of the feeding region have been fairly large. In both May and June, salable receipts of cattle were a higher percentage of the previous year at Chicago, Omaha and Sioux City than at any other of the principal markets. Marketings were particularly low at Fort Worth Oklahoma City, Kansas City, and St. Louis. Data for Federally inspected plants show that cow slaughter this year has nearly equaled last year. Hence, most of the increase in cattle withheld to date compared with last year are probably heifers kept for breeding and both calves and yearling steers kept for growth on forage before sale for slaughter or grain feeding.

More Cattle on Pastures in Blue Stem and Flint Hills

The Blue Stem - Osage Pastures of Kansas and Oklahoma account for some of the extra cattle on pasture this year. Those regions received about 10 percent more cattle and calves during the 1951 spring season than in the spring of 1950. Also, 7 percent more cattle wintered over than a year earlier. Cattle have made good gains there after a delayed start.

The large receipts of cattle and calves resulted from a strong demand for pastures from the dry areas of the Southwest. The cattle coming in consisted of a smaller proportion of aged steers than in past years, with a larger proportion of cows and calves and young cattle.

Present indications are that the marketings of pasture cattle will be later than usual. The peak movement is usually in August.

Extension of Defense Act Permits Few New Ceilings, no Rollbacks, during July

The extension of the Defense Production Act of 1950 continued for July the authority for all price and slaughter controls that were in effect the last of June. No rollbacks of existing ceilings and no new ceilings are permitted, with the exception of ceilings on products made from agricultural commodities that become newly eligible for ceilings because their prices rose from below parity to above parity

Slaughter Quotas Announced for July

Slaughter quotas for July were set by OPS at 90 percent of the July 1950 slaughter for cattle, 85 percent for calves, 85 percent for sheep and lambs, and 105 percent for hogs. Federally inspected slaughterers are allowed as much as an additional 15 percent quota on cattle and hogs if necessary in

order to fill military contracts for beef and pork. The additional allowance can be used to the extent that the quantity of meat contracted for delivery to the military services this year exceeds the quantity delivered in the same period last year.

Up to 5 percent of slaughter quotas that are unused by a slaughterer in one month may be carried over by him to the next month, but no longer.

Table 5.- Slaughter of meat animals under Federal inspection by regions, and receipts at 12 major markets, May 1951 as percentage of May 1950

Region in market	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
		Slaughter under Federal Inspection		
North Atlantic	92	82	97	111
South Atlantic	80	87	--	113
East North Central	87	95	52	115
West North Central	94	81	62	115
South Central	80	70	51	109
Mountain	95	50	67	107
Pacific	101	61	84	114
United States	92	83	70	114
		Salable market receipts		
Chicago	93	81	57	109
Cincinnati	73	82	63	104
Denver	90	71	30	92
Fort Worth	61	61	31	85
Indianapolis	75	65	100	105
Kansas City	79	42	53	112
Oklahoma City	53	50	104	102
Omaha	105	46	45	131
St. Joseph	92	56	47	124
St. Louis NSY	83	82	28	111
Sioux City	96	73	72	114
S. St. Paul	92	109	49	118
Total	89	80	40	113

In a release of May 24, the OPS explained that slaughter quotas are set so as to "distribute livestock coming to market equitably among registered slaughterers". "--- they do not limit --- the total quantity of livestock that may be marketed ---." The agency pointed out that it would raise quotas during a month if market supplies should be sufficiently large. It would do so if necessary in areas of particularly heavy marketings.

Slaughter quotas are intended to distribute meat through customary channels in a normal proportion to total supplies. They also are intended to have a price-stabilization effect, inasmuch as restrictions on numbers to be slaughtered serve to reduce upward pressure on prices.

Much Regional Difference in Livestock Marketings and Slaughter Compared with year Ago

Both marketings and slaughter of meat animals have been relatively larger compared with a year earlier in some regions than others. Slaughter by regions has varied less from last year than has marketings, yet cattle slaughter in May was as much as 101 percent of May 1950 in the Pacific region and as little as 80 percent in the South Atlantic and South Central regions. (Table 5) High percentages are possible in instances under the slaughter control program because of allowances for military contracts and carryovers of unused quotas.

At the least, variations in regional supply of livestock compared with earlier patterns are a handicap to equitable distribution of meat.

Meat Consumption Per Person in First Half of 1951 Below Last Year

Less meat was consumed per person in the first half of 1951 than in the same period of 1950. In the first quarter, the reduction was 1.4 pounds or about 4 percent. It was distributed among beef, veal, and lamb. Pork consumption per person was the same in the first quarter of this year as last. (Table 6.)

Meat consumption per person in the second quarter this year was probably close to that of a year earlier. Pork consumption per person in the second quarter was larger than last year. However, less beef, veal, and lamb was consumed than last year. Beef consumption was less than had been expected because the announcements on price controls resulted in delaying some marketings of cattle until the third quarter.

Table 6.- Meat consumption per person by quarter year, 1950 and 1951

Quarter	Beef		Veal		Lamb and mutton		Pork exl. lard		All meat	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	14.6	1.9	1.6	1.0	0.9	18.5	18.5	37.0	35.6
Apr.-June	15.7	---	1.9	---	1.0	---	16.6	---	35.2	---
July-Sept.	15.9	---	2.1	---	1.0	---	15.0	---	34.0	---
Oct.-Dec.	15.8	---	2.0	---	1.0	---	18.7	---	37.5	---
Year	63.0	---	7.9	---	4.0	---	68.8	---	143.7	---

Table 7.- Meat consumption per person, by kind of meat, United States, 1899-1951

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork 1/	Total meat	Year	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork 1/	Total meat
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds		Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1899	67.2	5.2	6.5	71.8	150.7	1925	59.1	8.5	5.2	66.3	139.1
1900	67.1	5.2	6.5	71.9	150.7	1926	59.8	8.1	5.4	63.7	137.0
1901	67.9	5.4	7.0	70.8	151.1	1927	54.1	7.3	5.3	67.3	134.0
1902	65.0	6.0	7.1	66.7	144.8	1928	48.4	6.4	5.5	70.5	130.8
1903	70.9	6.1	6.9	68.2	152.1	1929	49.3	6.3	5.6	69.2	130.4
1904	69.6	6.0	6.5	70.6	152.7						
1905	71.3	6.6	6.3	71.0	155.2	1930	48.6	6.4	6.7	66.6	128.3
1906	71.3	7.0	6.3	71.0	155.6	1931	48.3	6.6	7.1	67.9	129.9
1907	70.6	7.2	6.3	74.1	158.2	1932	46.4	6.5	7.0	70.3	130.2
1908	72.1	7.2	6.3	77.7	163.3	1933	51.2	7.1	6.7	70.3	135.3
1909	73.5	7.2	6.7	66.4	153.8	1934	63.5	9.3	6.3	64.0	143.1
						1935	52.9	8.5	7.2	48.1	116.7
1910	69.8	7.1	6.4	61.8	145.1	1936	60.1	8.3	6.6	54.8	129.8
1911	67.9	7.0	7.3	68.4	150.6	1937	54.8	8.6	6.6	55.4	125.4
1912	64.0	6.9	7.6	66.2	144.7	1938	54.0	7.6	6.8	57.8	126.2
1913	62.8	6.2	7.2	66.3	142.5	1939	54.4	7.5	6.6	64.3	132.8
1914	61.5	5.7	7.1	64.6	138.9						
1915	56.0	5.8	6.0	66.1	133.9	1940	54.7	7.4	6.6	73.0	141.7
1916	58.4	6.4	5.8	68.4	139.0	1941	60.5	7.6	6.8	67.9	142.8
1917	64.2	7.1	4.4	58.5	134.2	1942	60.8	8.2	7.2	63.3	139.5
1918	68.0	7.2	4.7	60.6	140.5	1943	52.9	8.2	6.4	78.5	146.0
1919	61.0	7.8	5.6	63.4	137.8	1944	55.3	12.4	6.6	79.2	153.5
						1945	59.0	11.8	7.3	66.3	144.4
1920	58.6	7.9	5.4	63.1	135.0	1946	61.3	9.9	6.6	75.6	153.4
1921	55.1	7.5	6.1	64.3	133.0	1947	69.1	10.7	5.4	69.8	155.0
1922	58.6	7.7	5.1	65.3	136.7	1948	62.6	9.4	5.0	68.4	145.4
1923	59.2	8.1	5.3	73.7	146.3	1949	63.5	8.7	4.1	67.6	143.9
1924	59.1	8.5	5.2	73.5	146.3						
						1950	63.0	7.9	4.0	68.8	143.7
						1951 2/	62	7.2	3.5	73	146 -147

1/ Excluding lard.
2/ Tentative indications.

Total production of meat was somewhat larger in the first half of 1951 than last year. Imports of meat--which are mainly beef--also were larger. However, military takings were substantially greater than a year earlier. This together with the increase in civilian population resulted in a lower average consumption per person.

Consumption Per Person in Second Half Likely to Exceed Last Year

More meat per person will probably be consumed in the second half of 1951 than in 1950. Pork supplies will be substantially larger and the most likely prospect is for larger beef supplies also.

The trend toward increasing cattle herds is cutting down calf slaughter this year. Veal supplies per person will likely remain below 1950.

Inventory numbers of sheep and lamb also are apparently being increased this year. Consequently, the supply of lamb per person will continue smaller than in 1950. Consumption of lamb, already a record low of 4.0 pounds per person in 1950, may drop to 3.5 pounds in 1951.

Posting Not Required on Beef Prices in Non-Kosher Retail Stores Until August 1

Official OPS lists for ceiling prices on beef at Kosher retail stores were required to be posted by June 11, but lists for all other stores, previously due in July, are now not called for until August 1. Delays in printing cards caused postponement of the original order for other than Kosher stores.

Nevertheless, labeling of beef in trays is required. In order to prevent substitution of lower grade meat, identical beef cuts having different ceiling prices because of difference in grade are required to be kept in separate trays and the ceiling price for each display must be separately indicated.

Dollars-and-Cents Ceilings for Veal, Pork, Lamb, and Sausage Being Drafted

The OPS announced in early June that regulations are being drafted to put dollars-and-cents ceilings on veal, pork, lamb, and sausage "as speedily as possible." Veal was apparently due to receive attention first. Specific proposals on wholesale price ceilings for veal had been prepared and those in retail veal ceiling were in process.

During July, any issuance of dollars-and-cents ceilings would be subject to the measure extending the Defense Production Act, which permits no reduction in ceiling prices.

On June 26, the OPS fixed the ceilings on spring lamb at the same ceiling price as had been in effect on winter lamb. The lamb ceiling is determined by each dealer's prices between December 19 and January 26.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Tables 8, 9, and 10 present revised data on commercial slaughter and meat production for 1950. They correct tables published in the statistical appendix to this Situation for February 1951.

Table 8 .- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1950

Month	Cattle: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Cattle: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle: Slaughter: Total commercial	Cattle: Beef production: Federally inspected	Cattle: Beef production: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle: Beef production: Total commercial	Calves: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Calves: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Calves: Slaughter: Total commercial	Calves: Veal production: Federally inspected	Calves: Veal production: Other wholesale and retail	Calves: Veal production: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
January	1,102	412	1,514	592	188	780	465	337	802	50	37	87
February	939	358	1,297	510	166	676	443	339	782	44	36	80
March	1,082	403	1,485	589	186	775	586	405	991	56	40	96
April	959	364	1,323	526	168	694	494	341	835	50	37	87
May	1,075	410	1,485	585	189	774	496	353	849	54	39	93
June	1,066	397	1,463	571	182	753	485	330	815	57	40	97
July	1,070	404	1,474	570	184	754	443	324	767	56	41	97
August	1,184	432	1,616	632	197	829	484	354	838	65	43	108
September	1,196	423	1,619	640	192	832	488	346	834	65	42	107
October	1,169	419	1,588	623	191	814	515	356	871	64	41	105
November	1,151	405	1,556	611	183	794	505	339	844	58	40	98
December	1,110	371	1,481	602	171	773	446	299	745	48	34	82
Year	13,103	4,798	17,901	7,051	2,197	9,248	5,850	4,123	9,973	667	470	1,137

Month	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Sheep and lambs: Slaughter: Total commercial	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton production: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton production: Other wholesale and retail	Sheep and lambs: Lamb and mutton production: Total commercial	Hogs: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Hogs: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs: Slaughter: Total commercial	Hogs: Pork production excluding lard: Federally inspected	Hogs: Pork production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs: Pork production excluding lard: Total commercial	All meat production excluding lard: Federally inspected	All meat production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	All meat production excluding lard: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
January	1,077	93	1,170	51	4	55	5,844	1,177	7,021	804	150	954	1,497	379	1,876
February	863	74	937	43	3	46	4,191	1,018	5,209	559	127	686	1,156	332	1,488
March	939	81	1,020	46	3	49	5,020	1,049	6,069	661	131	792	1,352	360	1,712
April	833	89	922	40	4	44	4,316	910	5,226	574	114	688	1,190	323	1,513
May	941	93	1,034	43	4	47	4,339	896	5,235	593	112	705	1,275	344	1,619
June	1,019	102	1,121	44	4	48	4,154	812	4,966	605	105	710	1,277	331	1,608
July	960	102	1,062	41	5	46	3,314	716	4,030	515	93	608	1,182	323	1,505
August	1,076	118	1,194	47	5	52	3,626	816	4,442	520	105	625	1,264	350	1,614
September	1,063	101	1,164	47	4	51	4,137	862	4,999	547	111	658	1,299	349	1,648
October	1,081	99	1,180	47	4	51	5,102	1,004	6,106	665	132	797	1,399	368	1,767
November	969	89	1,058	43	4	47	6,144	1,105	7,249	821	145	966	1,533	372	1,905
December	918	72	990	42	3	45	6,777	1,175	7,952	924	152	1,076	1,616	360	1,976
Year	11,739	1,113	12,852	534	47	581	56,964	11,540	68,504	7,788	1,477	9,265	16,040	4,191	20,231

Revises Table A-11 of the statistical appendix to the February 1951 issue of this Situation.

Table 9 .- Average live weight of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months, 1950

Month	Cattle: Federally inspected	Cattle: Total commercial	Calves: Federally inspected	Calves: Total commercial	Sheep and lambs: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs: Total commercial	Hogs: Federally inspected	Hogs: Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
January	993	958	196	196	100	100	247	242
February	1,000	964	181	185	104	103	239	234
March	995	960	170	173	103	102	234	231
April	991	956	181	186	100	99	238	234
May	985	953	193	198	95	95	245	240
June	974	945	209	213	90	90	264	258
July	973	942	226	225	91	91	278	269
August	974	943	241	232	93	93	259	252
September	983	949	241	231	93	93	233	230
October	988	954	225	218	93	93	230	228
November	998	963	214	214	95	94	237	235
December	1,017	983	200	202	97	96	245	241
Year	989	956	206	206	96	95	244	240

Revises table A-12 of the statistical appendix to the February 1951 issue of this Situation.

Table .- Meat and lard produced per head of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months, 1950

Month	Beef: Federally inspected	Beef: Total commercial	Veal: Federally inspected	Veal: Total commercial	Lamb and mutton: Federally inspected	Lamb and mutton: Total commercial	Pork: Federally inspected	Pork: Total commercial	Lard: Federally inspected	Lard: Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
January	539.3	515.2	109.1	108.4	47.8	47.0	137.9	135.9	37.0	34.8
February	546.0	521.1	100.9	102.4	49.3	49.1	133.7	131.7	35.2	33.0
March	547.3	521.9	95.5	96.9	49.1	48.0	132.8	130.5	33.5	32.3
April	551.0	524.6	101.9	104.3	48.1	47.7	133.3	131.6	35.1	33.3
May	546.6	521.0	108.5	109.5	46.1	45.5	137.0	134.7	36.0	34.2
June	538.9	514.7	117.3	119.0	43.0	42.8	146.0	143.0	39.5	37.5
July	535.4	511.5	126.7	126.5	43.5	43.3	155.8	150.9	40.4	38.0
August	536.0	513.2	134.5	128.8	44.1	43.6	143.6	140.7	37.5	35.1
September	537.5	513.9	133.3	128.3	44.2	43.8	132.6	131.6	31.8	30.4
October	535.3	512.7	124.3	120.5	44.1	43.2	130.7	130.5	31.8	30.5
November	533.7	510.2	117.0	116.2	44.9	44.4	133.9	133.3	32.8	31.3
December	546.1	522.1	109.4	110.1	45.9	45.5	136.6	135.3	35.8	33.8
Year	540.8	516.6	114.7	114.0	45.7	45.2	137.0	135.2	35.4	33.5

Revises table A-13 of the statistical appendix to the February 1951 issue of this Situation.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-May Av. 1950	Jan.-May Av. 1951	1950 May	1951 April	1951 May	1951 June
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	33.20	39.35	31.34	40.16	38.73	
Choice	do.	27.90	36.17	29.19	36.93	36.52	
Good	do.	(25.02	33.47	(27.10	34.49	34.03	
Commercial	do.	(	31.30	(	32.78	31.32	
Utility	do.	22.31	28.92	24.44	30.74	28.06	
All grades	do.	26.68	35.25	29.02	35.95	35.71	
Omaha, all grades	do.	25.29	34.06	27.64	34.76	34.17	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	25.48	34.06	27.99	34.79	34.21	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	19.90	27.42	22.48	28.82	28.91	
Utility	do.	17.35	25.11	19.41	26.33	25.88	
Canner and Cutter	do.	14.96	21.60	16.35	22.55	21.63	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.26	37.64	30.58	39.30	37.66	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	25.07	34.27	27.19	35.64	34.29	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	21.28	29.08	23.10	30.20	29.50	29.50
Veal calves	do.	24.34	32.94	25.60	33.90	33.20	33.40
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	16.93	21.11	18.36	20.75	20.75	
180-200 pounds	do.	17.29	21.87	19.46	21.36	21.45	
200-220 pounds	do.	17.35	21.97	19.57	21.56	21.61	
220-240 pounds	do.	17.19	21.88	19.54	21.55	21.55	
240-270 pounds	do.	16.88	21.67	19.35	21.48	21.38	
270-300 pounds	do.	16.51	21.30	18.94	21.19	20.98	
All weights	do.	16.82	21.60	18.96	21.33	21.27	
Seven markets 3/	do.	16.31	21.29	19.01	21.02	20.89	
Sows, Chicago	do.	14.51	18.91	16.27	19.02	18.80	
Price received by farmers	do.	16.34	20.84	18.30	20.60	20.40	21.10
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.3	12.2	12.8	11.9	12.0	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.4	13.0	13.7	12.7	12.4	13.0
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	12.68	21.26	10.96	22.24	18.06	
Price received by farmers	do.	10.64	17.38	11.00	18.10	16.90	16.50
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	25.77	37.91	26.89	39.17	36.36	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	5/25.12	6/33.62	---	---	---	
Price received by farmers	do.	23.50	33.04	24.70	34.30	32.60	31.70
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		311	418	342	428	418	422
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	43.76	55.91	46.73	56.51	56.84	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	7/49.90	55.79	7/53.37	56.62	58.00	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	18.44	23.49	20.44	22.74	23.91	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	25.32	32.25	28.06	31.22	32.83	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	21.48	26.39	23.39	25.91	26.25	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	30.12	37.00	32.80	36.33	36.81	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	68.4	84.6	72.2	85.4	84.5	
Lamb	do.	66.4	75.1	70.7	76.0	77.5	
Pork, including lard	do.	37.0	45.0	39.3	45.1	45.1	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		217.4	272.1	234.0	274.1	276.3	
Retail (1935-39=100)		225.0	270.7	238.4	272.5	272.4	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Average of prices for January, February and March.
6/ Price for January only.
7/ Price of 45-50 pounds in each month except January.
8/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-May 1950	January-May 1951	1950 May	1951 April	1951 May	1951 June
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		136	141	141	144	138	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	644	708	130	151	124	
Sheep and lambs	do.	582	737	157	157	258	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	5,157	4,892	1,075	894	986	
Calves	do.	2,484	2,075	496	406	414	
Sheep and lambs	do.	4,654	3,850	941	657	657	
Hogs	do.	23,710	25,802	4,338	4,989	4,952	
Percentage sows	Percent	11	6	15	6	8	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	993	1,010	985	1,004	997	
Calves	do.	184	177	193	169	183	
Sheep and lambs	do.	101	102	95	104	100	
Hogs	do.	241	244	245	242	244	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	546	558	547	560	563	
Veal, per head	do.	103	100	109	97	104	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	48	49	46	50	48	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	135	136	137	135	135	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	56	56	56	55	
Lard, per head	do.	36	36	36	35	36	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	15	14	15	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,801	2,718	585	499	552	
Veal	do.	254	206	54	39	43	
Lamb and mutton	do.	223	187	43	33	31	
Pork 2/	do.	3,191	3,488	593	672	665	
Lard	do.	840	924	156	173	180	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	7,105	6,657	1,436	1,227	1,328	
Calves	do.	4,259	3,522	849	678	672	
Sheep and lambs	do.	5,083	4,163	1,034	720	722	
Hogs	do.	28,759	31,119	5,234	5,965	5,879	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	3,699	3,562	774	658	716	
Veal	do.	443	358	93	67	71	
Lamb and mutton	do.	241	199	47	35	34	
Pork 2/	do.	3,825	4,163	705	795	782	
Lard	do.	965	1,053	179	196	204	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	91	131	111	100
Veal	do.	---	---	8	8	7	6
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	8	8	5	5
Pork	do.	---	---	542	648	654	612
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	749	906	892	834

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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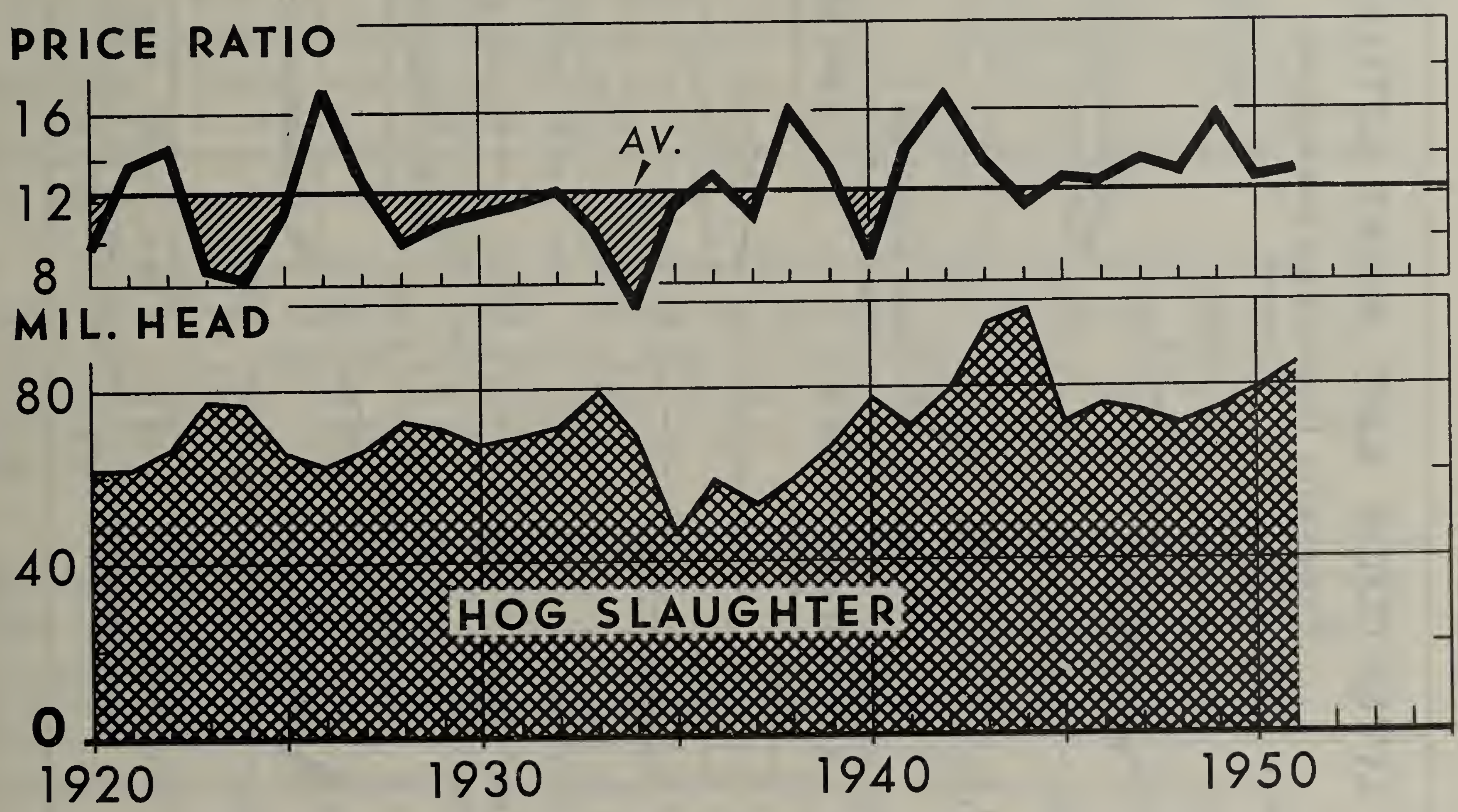
AUG. 10, P. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-53 BAE JULY 1951

HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO AND HOG SLAUGHTER

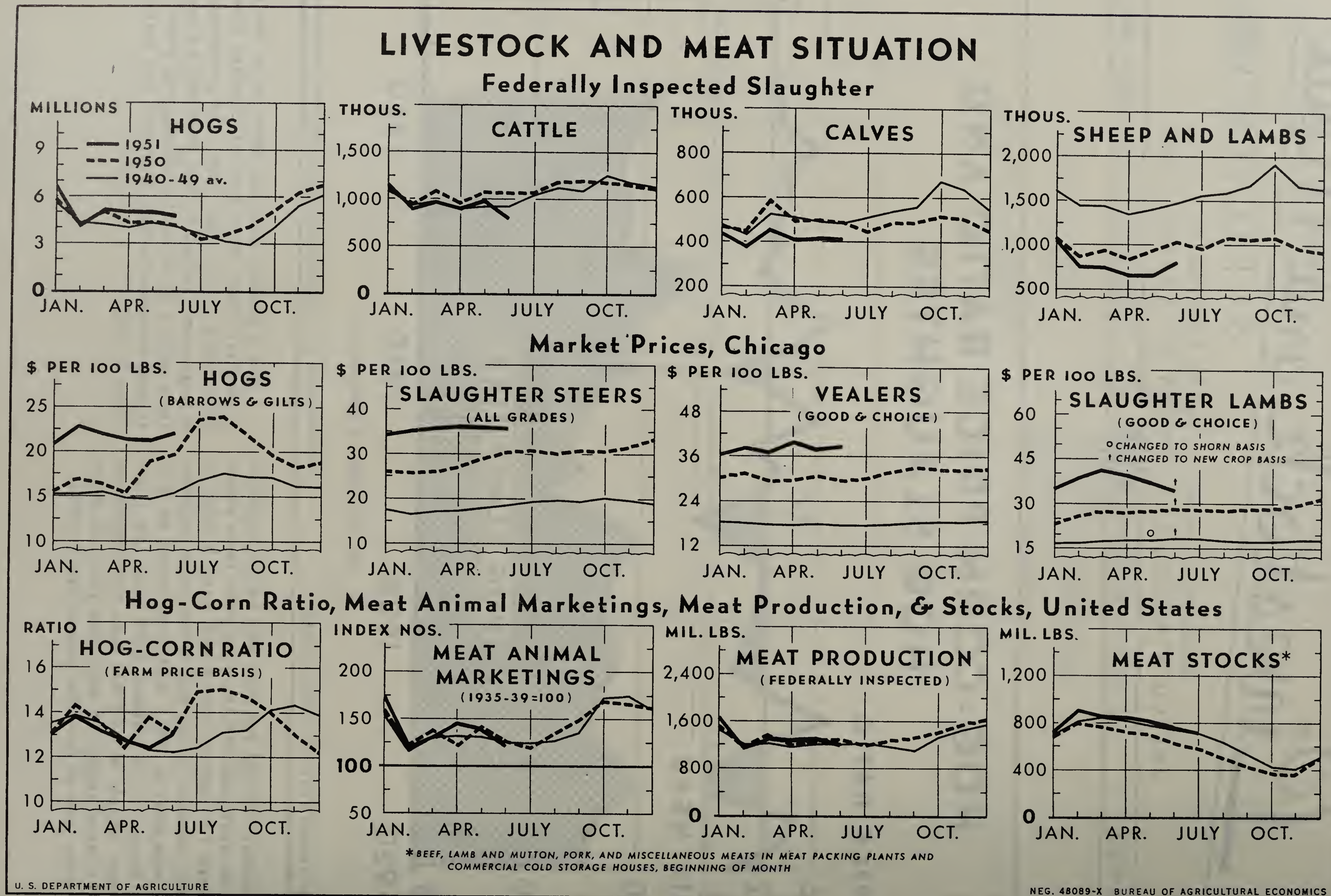


1951 DATA PARTLY FORECASTED

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48239-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Strong demand for pork and ample supplies of corn have held the hog-corn price ratio above average for several years and have brought a steady increase in hog production and slaughter. Hog slaughter in 1951 will total about 85 million head, 5 1/2 million more than last year A larger supply of pork has been very important in the meat supply to date this year, as there has been less of the other meats than in 1950.

The 7 percent increase reported for the 1951 spring pig crop, the 3 percent increase planned by farmers for the fall crop, the prospects for a large corn production this year and a hog-corn ratio still a little above average all point to a further increase in hog slaughter and pork supplies in 1952.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
THOUS.
CALVES
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 27, 1951

SUMMARY

Generally good pastures and ranges and the big supply of feed grains in prospect promise continued expansion in livestock production. Hog producers are likely to carry out their plans for a somewhat larger pig crop this fall than last and the cattle population will probably be increased by about $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 million head by the end of the year.

The efforts of cattle and sheep producers to build up herds means that total meat production for 1951 will show a smaller gain over 1950 than will livestock production on farms. Despite more cattle on feed and a larger total number of cattle and calves on farms at the beginning of this year than last, commercial cattle slaughter in the first half of 1951 was down 9 percent and commercial calf slaughter 18 percent from a year earlier. These reductions resulted from a greater tendency this year for cattlemen to retain young stock for breeding or feeding, a similar tendency in recent months to retain older breeding stock, and some delay in marketing because of uncertainties as to prices.

During the season half of 1951 cattle slaughter may nearly equal that of a year earlier. Calf slaughter probably will remain below last year but by a smaller percentage than in the first half. Slaughter of sheep and lambs has been considerably smaller than last year and will continue smaller. Inventory numbers of sheep and lambs are at a low level and are being built up.

In contrast to the smaller cattle slaughter, commercial hog slaughter in the first half of 1951 was 9 percent above 1950 or about in line with the larger pig crops last year. Since the 1951 spring pig crop was up 7 percent from a year earlier, slaughter in the last summer and fall is expected to be 5 to 10 percent larger than it was in the same period of 1950. Prospects for an increase in the fall pig crop indicate further expansion of hog slaughter through the summer of 1952.

Prices of barrows and gilts rose in June but were nearly steady in July chiefly because price ceilings on pork tended to prevent a further rise. Ceilings as now established will probably hold barrow and gilt prices comparatively stable for some time, and probably thus delay the beginning of a seasonal decline until about October.

With a seasonal increase expected this fall in cattle slaughter, cattle prices may show less strength than recently. Prices of some grades may at times drop below ceilings. However, because of the supporting effect of defense programs on the demand for meat, no material weakness in cattle prices is expected.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Total Livestock Slaughter, Meat Production in Second Half To Exceed Last Year

In early fall, slaughter of all livestock combined and production of meat will increase seasonally from its summer low, and throughout the remainder of the year will be generally larger than a year earlier. Slaughter of hogs has been above last year in most of 1951 to date and will continue higher. Cattle slaughter in the second half of 1951 may nearly equal last year; in the first half, it was considerably smaller than a year earlier. Slaughter of calves, sheep and lambs is likely to remain below the level of last year.

Pork Production to Continue Above 1950; Sow Slaughter Late

In January-June, 9 percent more hogs were slaughtered commercially than a year earlier and commercial pork production was up by the same percentage. Hogs were the only species for which the first half slaughter exceeded last year. Pork made up 51 percent of commercial meat production in the 6 months, the highest percentage for that period in the last 6 years of record. (table 1.)

The larger slaughter of hogs thus far in 1951 results from the larger pig crops of 1950. The 1950 fall pig crop, source of barrows and gilts slaughtered from mid-March to early September this year, was 9 percent bigger than the 1949 fall crop.

Although a higher percentage of fall-born pigs may have been slaughtered by early summer this year than last, slaughter of sows has been later than last summer and will maintain pork supplies above last year until marketings from the 1951 spring pig crop begin in September. Not until the week ending July 7 did marketings of sows at 7 mid-west markets this summer equal a year earlier. Since that date sow receipts have averaged about the same as last year, and are expected to continue as large or larger than a year earlier through the late summer season.

Hog marketings in 1951 have been consistently later than last year. So long as there is considerable confidence as to future prices, marketings may continue later than in 1950. Fewer spring pigs may be rushed for an early September market, and the seasonal increase in marketing thereafter may be a little slower.

Pork production may be 5 to 10 percent larger than last year in remaining months of 1951 and in early 1952, reflecting the 7 percent larger pig crop this spring than last.

Table 1.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-year, 1949 to first half 1951

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
		All Meat			
1949	5,020	4,537	4,704	5,453	19,714
1950	5,069	4,737	4,764	5,646	20,216
1951	5,124	4,654			
		Beef			
1949	2,270	2,233	2,399	2,240	9,142
1950	2,224	2,221	2,414	2,380	9,239
1951	2,188	1,965			
		Veal			
1949	271	286	347	336	1,240
1950	263	278	312	285	1,138
1951	220	216			
		Lamb and mutton			
1949	158	114	154	161	587
1950	151	139	149	143	582
1951	130	109			
		Pork excluding lard			
1949	2,321	1,904	1,804	2,716	8,745
1950	2,431	2,099	1,889	2,838	9,257
1951	2,586	2,364			

Cattle Slaughter Likely to Nearly Equal 1950 In Months Ahead

Prospects are for nearly as large a slaughter of cattle in the second half of 1951 as a year earlier in comparison with a considerably smaller slaughter in the first half of this year. Commercial cattle slaughter in January-June was 9 percent smaller than in the same 1950 period. However, slaughter weights were heavier and beef production was down only 7 percent.

The drop in cattle slaughter in January-June from a year earlier occurred even though 4.1 million more cattle and calves were on farms in January, and the number on grain feed for market was greater. The smaller slaughter was a joint result of several factors: (1) Both cattle on feed and all cattle on farms in January included a larger than usual proportion of young stock; this in itself meant a late slaughter. (2) More young stock have been retained on farms than last year for addition to breeding herds or for feeding. (3) Although slaughter of cows and heifers held up well during the winter, it did not increase seasonally during the spring. Slaughter of cows under Federal inspection in May and June was

far below last year and the smallest for those months in 8 years of record except 1946. Combined cow and heifer slaughter in June was the second smallest since 1932 (table 2). (4) Pasture and range conditions in late spring were unusually good in most regions, allowing cattle that otherwise might have been slaughtered by early summer to remain on grass for further gains. (5) Developments in legislation and uncertainties regarding price control reduced slaughter during the spring.

Cattle marketings increased sharply in July. However, they were still a little below the large marketings in the same month last year.

Table 2.- Slaughter of breeding stock under Federal inspection, by month, January-June 1950 and 1951

Month	Cows		Heifers		Sheep 1/	
	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
January	401	353	141	158	44	65
February	270	269	115	129	24	47
March	261	302	107	117	28	92
April	245	249	89	95	49	66
May	238	310	79	92	76	129
June	183	328	85	99	108	118

1/ Mostly ewes. Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

More Cattle on Grass; Fewer on Feed

The number of cattle on pastures and ranges this summer is probably considerably larger than last summer. However marketings off grass for slaughter may be only a little above the very small number last year, because of the large number of cows and heifers that will be retained for breeding herds and the prospective strong demand for cattle to go on feed.

Little if any increase is likely in the number of fed cattle to be marketed the rest of this year compared with 1950. On July 1, 9 percent fewer cattle were on feed in the Corn Belt than a year before. To a large degree, the reduction reflects a slower movement from grass to feed lots this summer than last. In 1950, receipts of stocker and feeder cattle in 8 Corn Belt States were larger in June than in July, and the number on feed on July 1 was correspondingly high. This year, receipts of feeder cattle were small in June.

Fewer of the cattle on feed this July were of the heavy weights nearly ready for slaughter. This indicates that slaughter of fed cattle in August to September will probably be below last year. The number slaughtered in the last months of 1951 is expected to be unusually large for that season, repeating the seasonal pattern that prevailed at the same time in 1950. In contrast, slaughter was very small late in 1949. Slaughter of fed cattle late this year could be up to 1950 levels if large numbers of cattle should move off grass into feedlots in late summer.

Cattle Inventories to be Much Bigger Next January

Calf slaughter in commercial establishments in January-June was 18 percent less than a year earlier. Slaughter in the second half, and the 1951 total, will probably be down from 1950 by a smaller percentage.

Because of the deficit in the first half, the year's total slaughter of cattle and calves, including slaughter on farms, may be no more than 28 million head compared with 29.1 million in 1950. As a result, the number of cattle and calves on farms next January may be 5-½ to 6 million larger than last January, for a new record of around 90 million head.

Sheep and Lamb Slaughter Small

The number of sheep and lambs slaughtered began to increase seasonally in mid-June but was below the number in corresponding weeks of 1950. Slaughter will probably continue somewhat below last year in all remaining months of 1951.

Both ewes and lambs are being withheld from slaughter and retained on farms. Slaughter of sheep (mostly ewes) under Federal inspection in May was smaller than in any previous May since 1933.

Total sheep and lamb slaughter for 1951 will likely be the smallest in this century.

Meat Consumption Per Person May About Equal Last Year

In the first half of 1951 total meat consumption per person was about 3-½ pounds, or 5 percent, smaller than a year earlier. About 1 pound more pork per person but 4-½ pounds less of all other meats was consumed in that period.

In the second half meat consumption per person is expected to be larger than in the second half of 1950, about offsetting the reduction in the first half, and the 1951 total may about equal the 144 pounds consumed in 1950. Pork consumption per person will again be up considerably and consumption of beef will be down less from last year than it was in the first half.

Consumption of beef in the second half of 1951 is now expected to be less than previously estimated because considerably more cattle are being added to herds than had appeared likely.

Pastures, Range Generally Good

Pasture and range conditions have been good in most of the United States though drought and dry ranges persist in the Southwest and excessive rainfall has recently damaged pastures in Kansas and neighboring states and parts of the South. The United States average condition of pastures on July 1 was 90 percent, 5 points better than in July 1950 and 4 points above average for the date. Range conditions in western states on July 1 averaged 84 percent; a year earlier they were 81 percent but average is 87 percent.

Moreover, the largest hay crop on record was in prospect on July 1.

Prospects Bright for Feed Grain Production

The July crop report indicated prospects for a 1951 corn crop of 3,295 million bushels. The 1950 crop was 3,131 million bushels. Prospective production of oats and barley was down somewhat from last year.

If crops of these sizes are harvested, the supply of feed grains would support the uptrend in livestock production now in progress. The carry-over of corn on October 1 is now expected to be around 725 to 750 million bushels. With this reserve, the total supply of feed concentrates per animal unit fed would be smaller than in the last 2 years but 13 percent above average. (Table 3.)

The prospects for corn production make it likely that the 3 percent increase farmers planned on June 1 for the fall pig crop will be realized. They are also favorable for a high level of cattle feeding next winter and a large supply of grain-fed beef.

Hog Prices Almost Steady in July; Marketing Margins Become Narrower

After rising from late May to the end of June, prices of barrows and gilts made little further advance in July. A narrowing of packer and distributor margins on pork indicated that retail ceiling prices on pork were limiting the price of live hogs. Data of the Production and Marketing Administration, for example, based on Chicago prices of live hogs and New York prices of pork products, show a reduction of the margin from $9.91 per 100 pounds live weight in the two weeks ending May 12 to $7.86 in the two weeks ending July 14. The May margin was wider than a year earlier, but the margin in July was about the same as last year.

Discounts Widen for Heavy Hogs, But Are Less Than Last Year

Price discounts for heavy hogs widened as sow marketings increased but they have been narrower this summer than last. At Chicago the first 3 weeks in July, the discount from prices of 220-240 pound barrows and gilts was $1.48 per 100 pounds for the 270-300 weight group and $3.90 for sows. Last July, the heavy barrows and gilts sold for $1.65 less than the medium weight, and sows for $5.07 less.

A slightly smaller proportion of sows in total hog slaughter and a relatively higher price for lard this summer than last, together with the strong demand for meat at ceiling prices, are factors in the somewhat small discounts for heavy hogs. Discounts will become narrower in August as sow marketing declines seasonally, and will be smaller in September.

Wholesale prices of lard (prime steam in 1 lb. cartons, at Chicago) are a third higher than last summer. However, they are still a little less than the price of live hogs (barrows and gilts). Moreover, there is not much promise of any further strengthening. Not only will lard production be very large this fall, but another big supply of soybean oil and a sharply increased supply of cottonseed oil will add materially to the overall supply of edible fats and oils.

Table 3- Feed concentrate balance, numbers of animal units, and feed per unit, United States, year beginning October, average 1937-41, annual 1945-51

Item	Average 1937-41	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons
Supply								
Stocks beginning of year 3/	16.9	14.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	29.0
Production of feed grains:								
Corn	72.1	80.7	91.0	66.8	103.1	94.6	87.7	92.2
Oats	18.1	24.6	24.0	19.2	23.9	21.3	23.4	21.9
Barley	6.9	6.4	6.3	6.7	7.6	5.7	7.2	6.3
Sorghum grains	2.2	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.7	4.3	6.7	4/6.7
Total	99.3	114.4	124.3	95.4	138.3	125.9	125.0	127.1
Other grains fed 5/	4.5	8.2	4.3	6.1	4.3	5.4	5.4	5.5
Byproduct feeds fed	15.4	17.7	19.4	19.0	20.0	20.6	21.3	21.5
Total supply	136.1	155.2	158.9	134.4	170.5	182.7	182.9	183.1
Utilization, October-September								
Concentrates fed 6/								
Corn	62.2	77.3	75.6	64.3	73.3	83.1	80.0	
Oats	16.1	23.9	19.6	17.8	20.7	19.5	20.5	
Barley and sorghum grains	6.9	6.4	5.1	5.1	5.8	5.4	7.5	
Wheat and rye	4.4	8.0	4.2	6.0	3.7	4.5	4.6	
Oilseed cake and meal	3.9	5.8	5.8	6.2	7.3	7.8	8.5	
Animal protein feeds	2.9	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	
Other byproduct feeds	8.6	9.5	11.3	10.4	10.3	10.3	10.3	
Total concentrates fed	105.0	133.3	123.9	112.2	123.5	133.1	133.9	
Feed grains for seed, human food, industry, and export	12.1	13.3	19.3	13.6	17.7	17.2	20.5	
Total utilization	117.1	146.6	143.2	125.8	141.2	150.3	154.4	
Utilization adjusted to crop year basis	116.2	144.3	145.0	126.5	139.7	151.5	153.9	
Stocks at end of crop year 2/	19.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	29.0	
Supply and utilization per animal unit								
Total supply (Million tons)	136.1	155.2	158.9	134.4	170.5	182.7	182.9	183.1
Concentrates fed (Million tons)	105.0	133.3	123.9	112.2	123.5	133.1	133.9	
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed annually (Millions)	153.1	167.8	161.4	155.9	162.9	170.1	176.5	182.0
Supply per animal unit (Ton)	.89	.92	.98	.86	1.05	1.07	1.04	1.01
Concentrates fed per animal unit (Ton)	.69	.79	.77	.72	.76	.78	.76	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Preliminary estimates, based on indications in July 1951.
3/ Stocks of corn in all positions on October 1, oats and barley July 1, and from 1947 to date sorghum grains on October 1. 4/ Unofficial estimate based on July 1 indications. 5/ Domestic wheat and rye and imported grains. 6/ Total quantities fed in the U.S. including domestically produced and imported grains and byproduct feeds.

Price Increase Allowed
for Pork Loins

On July 30 the OPS issued ceiling prices on light pork loins at wholesale that were higher than ceilings for that cut previously prevailing. The increase at wholesale can be passed on to retail prices of chops and roasts of the generally leaner type obtained from those loins. These changes do not affect greatly the average level of pork prices.

This is the first dollars-and-cents ceiling issued on prices of pork. Other fresh and cured pork products remain under ceilings as determined by each dealer's highest prices charged for sales during the period of December 19 to January 26. However, the OPS stated that uniform dollars-and-cents ceilings are planned for all pork products.

Seasonal Decline in Hog Prices
to Begin Later Than Usual

If ceiling prices on pork remain at recent levels, they will probably prevent much further seasonal rise in prices of barrows and gilts during the late summer period. The seasonal decline which usually begins in early or mid-September may for the same reason be delayed somewhat. Under these conditions the total seasonal decline will therefore be less than usual.

No Rollbacks Permitted in Ceiling Prices
of Livestock; Cattle May Not Stay at Ceilings

Under the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951, ceiling prices cannot be less than 90 percent of the actual price, by grade, on May 19, 1951. This provision in effect prohibits the rollbacks in prices of beef and of cattle that had earlier been scheduled by the Office of Price Stabilization for August 1 and October 1. Prices of beef at wholesale and retail remain under the ceilings put into force in May, and the average level of cattle prices is limited by restrictions that went into effect June 4.

There is reason to doubt that prices of all grades and cuts of beef and all kinds of cattle will remain continuously at their ceilings. Current ceiling prices of beef and of all meats are considerably higher than prices a year ago. Price ceilings on meat have not forced any general reductions in retail and wholesale prices but have only about maintained actual prices of January. Meanwhile, inflationary forces have lessened, easing the uptrend in demand for meat. In view of the comparatively high level of present prices of beef and the increase in cattle slaughter in prospect, some occasional weakening of cattle prices seems likely.

However, indications are that the defense program will have a further strengthening effect on demand for meat, and will prevent any material weakness in prices of cattle during the period of heavy marketings.

Slaughter Quota Program Ended

Controls on slaughterers were ended in August, having been prohibited by the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951. The quota system was instituted on February 9, as a part of the general program of control of prices of meat.

Table 4.- Hog-corn price ratio and hog slaughter, United States, 1920-51
(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Hog-corn price ratio 1/	Hog slaughter	Year	Hog-corn price ratio	Hog slaughter
		1,000 head			1,000 head
1920	9.8	61,502	1936	13.0	58,730
1921	13.6	61,818	1937	11.1	53,715
1922	14.4	66,201	1938	16.0	58,927
1923	8.7	77,508	1939	13.3	66,561
1924	8.2	76,809	1940	9.2	77,610
1925	11.4	65,508	1941	14.2	71,397
1926	17.0	62,585	1942	16.5	78,547
1927	12.7	66,195	1943	13.6	95,226
1928	9.9	72,889	1944	11.6	98,068
1929	10.9	71,012	1945	12.8	71,891
1930	11.4	67,272	1946	12.6	76,244
1931	11.7	69,233	1947	13.6	74,710
1932	12.3	71,425	1948	13.0	71,936
1933	10.4	79,681	1949	15.7	75,293
1934	7.0	68,760	1950	13.7	79,488
1935	11.6	46,011	1951	2/13.1	2/85,000

1/ Ratio of United States average prices received by farmers for hogs to the price received for corn. 2/ Partly estimated.

Digest of OPS and NPA Regulations Affecting Meat Animals

The following is a list of regulations affecting meat animals and their products issued by the Office of Price Stabilization and the Defense Production Authority. The subject and application of each regulation is summarized briefly. This list was prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the reference value it may have now and as a historical source in the future. It is believed complete and accurate, but any questions regarding these or any other regulations should be addressed to the agency issuing them.

Regulations issued by the Office of Price Stabilization,
Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
	Supply regulations
Distribution Order 1 Issued February 9, 1951 Effective February 9, 1951	Defines class 1, 2, 3, 1A, and 2A slaughterers and prescribes the method by which each slaughterer may determine the amount of livestock he can slaughter or have slaughtered for him.
Distribution Order 1 Amendment 1 Issued February 27, 1951 Effective February 27, 1951	Sets up the method of determining amount of meat suppliers must sell to institutional users.
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 2 Issued March 31, 1951 Effective March 31, 1951	Redefines a class 3 slaughterer as a farm operator who transferred during 1950 no more than 6,000 pounds of meat resulting from slaughter by him and/or for him
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 3 Issued April 2, 1951 Effective March 31, 1951	Establishes slaughter quotas on cattle for the April 1-April 29 period, at 100 percent of the corresponding period, 1950, but postpones to April 29, 1951 quotas on calves, sheep and lambs, and swine. Postpones date of issuance of OPS registration numbers to April 15, 1951
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 4 Issued April 30, 1951 Effective April 30, 1951	Prescribes the method for determing slaughter quota by applying the percentages given in DRI, SRI. Makes other minor changes.
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 5 Issued May 25, 1951 Effective May 25, 1951	Permits class 1 (Federally inspected) livestock slaughterers to use their own accounting periods as their quota period under OPS meat regulations. Sets forth the conditions under which "Club" livestock may be slaughtered.

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 6 Issued June 22, 1951 Effective June 22, 1951	Allows Federally inspected slaughterers to increase monthly quotas for sales to armed forces for cattle and swine on contracts dated on or after June 3, 1951 up to 15 percent over regular quota. Sets up factors for converting carcasses or cuts to live weight.
Distribution Regulation 1 Supplement 1 Issued April 30, 1951 Effective April 30, 1951	Establishes quotas for slaughter period beginning April 29, 1951 for Class 1 and Class 2 slaughterers --cattle 90 percent, calves 80 percent, sheep and lambs 80 percent, and swine 110 percent of comparable 1950 period.
Distribution Regulation 1 Supplement 1 Amendment 1 Issued May 25, 1951 Effective May 25, 1951	Sets up quotas for livestock slaughter during the period beginning on or after May 27 at 80 percent of 1950 base period for cattle, calves, sheep and lambs, and 115 percent for swine.
Distribution Regulation 1 Supplement 1 Amendment 2 Issued June 27, 1951 Effective June 27, 1951	Set up slaughter quotas for the period beginning on or after July 1 at 90 percent of the 1950 base for cattle, 85 percent for calves and sheep and lambs and 105 percent for swine.
Distribution Regulation 1 Supplement 1 Amendment 3 Issued July 18, 1951 Effective July 18, 1951	Increases July slaughter quotas on calves from 85 percent to 100 percent and on swine from 105 percent to 110 percent
Distribution Regulation 2 Issued April 30, 1951 Effective May 7, 1951	Requires that records be kept by slaughterers and processors for possible use in allocation of meats later on. All meat except pork and meat slaughtered by farmers for own use must be graded according to Federal standards.
Distribution Regulation 2 Amendment 1 Issued May 4, 1951 Effective May 7, 1951	Amends DR2 to permit the movement until May 12 of ungraded beef which has left slaughtering plants before May 7.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Regulation 2 Amendment 2 Issued May 11, 1951 Effective May 12, 1951	Makes 3 changes in record keeping requirements: (1) date on invoice furnished buyer shall be date of shipment (2) eliminates requirement that classification of "stag" be shown on invoice of sale of beef (3) invoices must be kept by buyers as well as sellers. Authorizes unofficial grading of meat without limitation as to grade, until May 21 in cases where written word had been received from the U.S.D.A. that an official grader is not available.
Distribution Regulation 2 Amendment 3 Issued June 13, 1951 Effective June 13, 1951	Eliminates the provision of DR 2 requiring records of meat sales to individual customers. Provides as an alternative to keeping sales records, that production and inventory records may be kept instead. Postpones the effective date for compliance to record keeping requirements to June 24.

Price Regulations

Public Law 774 - 81 st Congress: Approved September 8, 1950 (Defense Production Act of 1950)	Enables the issuance of regulations concerning (Title I) Priorities and allocations, (Title III) Expansion of productive capacity and supply, and (Title IV) Price and wage stabilization.
Price Procedural Regulation 1 Issued December 18, 1950 Effective December 18, 1950	Prescribes and explains the procedures used by the Economic Stabilization Administrator in making various kinds of price determinations.
Price Procedural Regulation 1, Revised Issued May 26, 1951 Effective May 26, 1951	Restates PPR 1 in line with changes in authority and methods in price determination.
Set of Voluntary Pricing Standards Announced December 19, 1950	Set up a guide to aid sellers who wished to cooperate in a program of voluntary price stabilization.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Issued January 26, 1951 Effective January 26, 1951	Establishes ceiling prices for all commodities and services (except specific exemptions) upon the basis of prices in effect during the period from December 19, 1950 to January 25, 1951.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Interpretation 1, to Section 11 Issued April 11, 1951 Effective April 11, 1951	Points out that ceiling prices for wholesale pork cuts may not be increased under parity adjustment previsions of Sec. 11.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Interpretation 3-43 Issued April 13, 1951 Effective April 13, 1951	Interprets and explains various sections of GCPR such as typical "squeeze" situations, determination of ceiling prices under various conditions, etc.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Amendment 1 Issued February 12, 1951 Effective February 12, 1951	Makes minor changes in Section 11 concerning the ceiling price of raw agricultural commodities. Adds certain commodities to list exempted when sold by the producer.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Amendment 2 Issued February 23, 1951 Effective February 23, 1951	Limits "base period price" for manufacturers and wholesalers to that price at which at least 10 percent of base period deliveries were made. Also made other limitations in determining ceiling prices.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Amendment 3 Issued February 23, 1951 Effective February 23, 1951	Postponed preparation of a statement showing determination of base period prices and a ceiling price list from March 1 to March 22.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Amendment 5 Issued March 1, 1951 Effective March 1, 1951	Extends 10 percent limitation of Amendment 3 to all sellers and restates this limitation as applying to dollar volume of deliveries. Makes other minor changes.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Amendment 7 Issued March 19, 1951 Effective March 19, 1951	Makes certain clarifications concerning sale of agricultural commodities by producers, and price adjustment permitted by processors and manufacturers of these commodities.
General Ceiling Price Regulation: Amendment 10 Issued May 11, 1951 Effective May 16, 1951	Enables producer-processors and producer owned cooperatives to figure their "pass through" under Section 11.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Amendment 13 Issued May 28, 1951 Effective May 28, 1951	Primarily revises Section 11. Also clarifies method used to determine the ceiling prices of products processed from agricultural commodities after the prices of these commodities have reached the legal minimum.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Amendment 14 Issued May 31, 1951 Effective May 31, 1951	Establishes that sales on commodity exchanges of raw agricultural commodities selling below the legal minima are not controlled. A purchaser can raise his ceiling price before he has sold all of the product acquired under a lower cost.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Including Amendments 1-14 Issued June 7, 1951 Effective immediately	Reprints the General Ceiling Price Regualtion as amended by amendments 1-14
General Ceiling Price Regulation Amendment 17 Issued July 12, 1951 Effective July 17, 1951	Repeals the provisions of Amendment 13 which prohibits "inventory windfalls" to manufacturers and processors of agricultural commodities under the parity "pass-through" provisions of Section 11.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 1 Issued February 1, 1950 Effective February 1, 1950	Exempts from GCPR certain purchases and sales of defense material and services.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 3 Issued February 12, 1951 Effective February 12, 1951	Provides a special pricing method for processors who sold and delivered dressed hogs at a price figured by using a percentage of the live hog prices.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 29 Issued May 28, 1951 Effective May 28, 1951	Provides for a follow-thru on price decreases and increases by mfg.-pursuant to Reg. 22 and alleviates certain replacement squeezes.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 29 Amendment 1 Issued June 4, 1951 Effective June 4, 1951	Corrects and example in GCPR, SR 29 computing the percentage markups on the basis of invoice cost.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 32 Issued June 4, 1951 Effective June 4, 1951	Establishes ceiling prices for sales of green sheep intestines to manufacturers of surgical sutures.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 34 Issued June 12, 1951 Effective June 12, 1951	Permits adjustments of ceiling prices of manufacturers and distributors of fresh and semi-dry sausage made in whole or in part from beef.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 37 Issued June 26, 1951 Effective June 26, 1951	Establishes prices for spring lambs at the same level as winter lamb under GCPR, pending issuance of dollar and cents ceilings on wholesale and retail lamb carcasses and cuts.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 47 Issued July 30, 1951 Effective July 30, 1951	Establishes dollars-and-cents ceiling prices for wholesale and retail sales of pork loins and pork cuts derived from the pork loin.
Ceiling Price Regulation 2 Issued January 25, 1951 Effective January 29, 1951	Establishes maximum prices for cattle hides, kips and calfskins at the highest prices for sales or deliveries during November 1-30, 1950 for the same type, weight and grade.
Ceiling Price Regulation 2 Revision 1 Issued March 15, 1951 Effective March 19, 1951	This regulation establishes a sliding scale of dollars and cents prices for sales of hides and skins based on the location, cure and weights of hides.
Ceiling Price Regulation 2 Revision 1 Amendment 1 Issued April 10, 1951 Effective April 14, 1951	Adds clarifying words of minor importance to text of Regulation 2 Revision 1 to help interpret the original regulation. Changes ceiling price of Pacific coast hides from 28 1/2 cents a pound to 27 1/2 cents.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Issued March 1, 1951 Effective immediately	Establishes ceiling prices for those articles not produced or manufactured in particular territory or possessions in which they are sold.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Amendment 1 Issued April 2, 1951 Effective April 1, 1951	Redefines "direct costs" and "dollars and cents markup" as applied to CPR 9. Extends certain reporting requirements from April 1 to April 30.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Amendment 2 Issued May 21, 1951 Effective May 21, 1951	Extends application CRP 9 to all commodities except those specifically exempted under the Defense Production Act of 1950.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Issued March 28, 1951 Effective April 5, 1951	Establishes maximum percentage margins that wholesalers are allowed in pricing certain foods. The percentages are the percentage over "net cost" (Applies to canned meats and canned or frozen foods containing meats.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 1 Issued April 27, 1951 Effective April 27, 1951	Postpones from April 30, 1951 to May 14, 1951 the date on or before which the ceiling prices of this regulation must be put into effect.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 2 Issued May 10, 1951 Effective May 10, 1951	Corrects typographical errors in Ceiling Price Regulation 14 and provides a method for retailers purchasing food items from "service fee" wholesalers.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 3 Issued May 18, 1951 Effective May 18, 1951	Defines those food items included in this Regulation, those excluded from the regulation but subject to the General Price Regulation, and those excluded from controls by Amendment 1 to General Overriding Regulation 7.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 4 Issued July 13, 1951 Effective July 18, 1951	Permits wholesalers to add certain transportation charges when products are shipped by water in determining "net costs"
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Issued March 28, 1951 Effective April 5, 1951	Establishes maximum margins allowed in computing ceiling prices of certain foods sold at retail in Group 3 and Group 4 stores.
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 1 Issued April 27, 1951 Effective April 27, 1951	Same as CPR 14, Amendment 1.
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 2 Issued May 10, 1951 Effective May 10, 1951	Excludes from CPR 15 stores selling mostly "specialty" food items. It also deals with frozen food sales by retail route sellers.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 3 Issued May 18, 1951 Effective May 18, 1951	Same as CPR 14, Amendment 3.
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 4 Issued June 25, 1951 Effective June 25, 1951	Permits Group 3 and 4 stores an additional allowance on computing "net cost" for frozen foods. The additional allowance is for warehousing and delivery of frozen foods.
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 5 Issued July 13, 1951 Effective July 18, 1951	Same as CPR 14, Amendment 4 but applies to retailers in Group 3 and 4 stores.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Issued March 28, 1951 Effective April 5, 1951	Establishes maximum margins allowed in computing ceiling prices of certain foods sold at retail in Group 1 and Group 2 stores.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amendment 1 Issued April 27, 1951 Effective April 27, 1951	Same as CPR 14, Amendment 1.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amdnement 2 Issued May 10, 1951 Effective May 10, 1951	Permits stores selling mostly "specialty" food items to price under GCPR under certain conditions and also permit retail route sellers to price frozen foods under General Ceiling Price Regulation.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amendment 3 Issued May 18, 1951 Effective May 18, 1951	Same as CPR 14, Amendment 3.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amendment 4 Issued July 13, 1951 Effective July 18, 1951	Same as CPR 14, Amendment 4 but applies to retailers in Group 1 and 2 stores.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Issued April 25, 1951 Effective May 28, 1951	Sets ceiling prices for many manufactured products at a pre-Korean base plus actual increases in costs. (Applies to dry sausages)
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Interpretations 2-17 Issued May 7, 1951 Effective May 7, 1951	Lists OPS interpretations to sections of Ceiling Price Regulation 22.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Interpretations 19-32 June 8, 1951 Effective June 8, 1951	Interprets sections of Price Regulation 22.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Interpretation 1 Issued May 1, 1951 Effective May 1, 1951	Prohibits adding the recent increase in transportation charges in computing costs unless such increases were in effect March 15.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 1 Issued May 4, 1951 Effective May 28, 1951	Provides codes for manufactured products to facilitate analysis of reports.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 2 Issued May 11, 1951 Effective May 16, 1951	Outlines special provision for producer-processors to use in determing cost of materials.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 6 Issued May 28, 1951 Effective May 28, 1951	Changes effective date of CPR 22 to July 2, 1951 rather than May 28, 1951
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 6 Correction undated	Corrects words of CPR 22, Amendment 6.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 10 Issued June 19, 1951 Effective June 19, 1951	Allows manufacturer to add to his recomputed payroll his increased cost between end of base period and March 15, 1951.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 14 Issued June 28, 1951 Effective June 28, 1951	Exempts leather cut stock (all items cut from tanned hides and skins) from CPR 22. Such items continue under GCPR.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 16, 1951 Issued July 12, 1951 Effective July 17, 1951	Deletes the provision of CPR 22 which prohibit "inventory windfalls" to manufacturers and processors of agricultural commodities. Also makes other minor changes.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
eiling Price Regulation 23 ssued April 30, 1951 ffective May 20, 1951	Limits the amount slaughterers may pay on the average for (1) live steers, heifers, cows, stags and (2) bulls slaughtered during an accounting period and within 120 day of purchase.
eiling Price Regulation 23 mendment 1 ssued May 31, 1951 ffective May 31, 1951	Extends the effective date of Price Regulation 23 to accounting periods or fractions thereof commencing on June 4.
eiling Price Regulation 24 ssued April 30, 1951 ffective May 9, 1951	Sets up dollars and cents ceiling prices on wholesale cuts of beef by grade and by zone.
eiling Price Regulation 24 mendment 1 ssued May 4, 1951 ffective May 4, 1951	Permits sellers who bought ungraded beef prior to May 7, 1951 an additional 4 days time to dispose of it.
eiling Price Regulation 24 mendment 2 ssued May 11, 1951 ffective May 12, 1951	Permits certain wholesalers to supply retailers with prepared retail cuts, allows wholesalers until May 31 to dispose of ungraded stocks and establishes ceilings on imported cured boneless processing beef from Mexico and other foreign countries.
eiling Price Regulation 24 mendment 3 ssued June 29, 1951 ffective July 5, 1951	Limits the sale of fabricated beef cuts by packers and makes other miscellaneous changes in CPR 24.
eiling Price Regulation 25 ssued April 30, 1951 ffective May 14, 1951	Establishes dollars and cents ceiling prices for beef at retail by cuts, by grade, by zone, and by type of store.
eiling Price Regulation 25 orrections ssued May 7, 1951	Corrects an ommission of portions of Colorado and Wyoming from zone description.
eiling Price Regulation 25 mendment 1 ssued May 11, 1951	Defines some beef cuts not previously defined, changes price of some primal cuts sold by retailers operating locker plants.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Amendment 2 Issued July 25, 1951 Effective July 25, 1951	Suspends until further notice the requirement that retail meat dealers, other than Kosher, post their beef ceilings by August 1, redefines specialty steaks; provides for the sale of a leaner ground beef; and makes other miscellaneous changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26 Issued April 30, 1951 Effective May 14, 1951	Establishes dollars and cents ceiling prices for Kosher beef items sold at retail.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26 Correction Issued May 7, 1951	Corrects description of zone 6 to include parts of Colorado and Wyoming.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26 Amendment 1 Issued May 11, 1951 Effective May 14, 1951	Changes effective date to May 21, 1951.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26 Revised Issued May 18, 1951 Effective May 21, 1951	Revises CPR 26 as corrected and amended. Fixes retail ceiling prices for certain Kosher beef cuts and Kosher beef variety meats and beef by-products.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26 Revised (corrections) Issued May 31, 1951	Corrects ceiling prices for Kosher beef cuts in CPR 26 as revised.
Ceiling Price Regulation 31 Issued May 4, 1951 Effective May 9, 1951	Provides a formula for the pricing of imported articles at retail and the reporting of mark-ups per unit of sales of imported articles. Does not apply to hides and skins and fresh, frozen or chilled meats.
Ceiling Price Regulation 31 Amendment 1 Issued June 1, 1951 Effective June 1, 1951	Makes certain changes for "importer-retailers" and postpones the effective date to June 1.
Ceiling Price Regulation 31 Amendment 3 Issued June 1, 1951 Effective June 1, 1951	Extends the effective date of the regulation to July 15, 1951 and simplifies the filing requirements.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 31 Amendment 5 Issued July 13, 1951 Effective July 13, 1951	Gives sellers who were not pricing under this regulation by July 1, 1951 an option of continuing pricing under the GCPR or under CPR 31.
Ceiling Price Regulation 41 Issued May 29, 1951 Effective	Establishes ceiling prices for the sale of shoes by shoe manufacturers. (This is a special application of CPR 22 to the shoe industry.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 41 Amendment 1 Issued June 20, 1951 Effective June 20, 1951	Corrects and Clarifies the methods for determining material and labor costs for shoe manufacturers.
General Overriding Regulation 4 Issued April 18, 1951 Effective April 23, 1951	Exempts from ceiling prices certain untanned skins of sheep or lambs, either domestic or foreign, with the wool still on, not including shearlings with up to 1 inch of wool.
General Overriding Regulation 7 Issued April 30, 1951 Effective May 5, 1951	Sets up across-the-board exemptions from ceiling price restrictions for certain commodities of minor significance upon the general economy. Exempts dead animals when sold for recovery of inedible products.
General Overriding Regulation 7 Amendment 1 Issued May 18, 1951 Effective May 18, 1951	Adds the following specialty foods released from ceiling prices: canned cocktail frankfurters, meat or poultry pates, also imported canned meats except beef, and beef products if imported in consumer size containers of 2 lbs. or less.
General Overriding Regulation 10 Issued May 11, 1951 Effective May 11, 1951	Makes individual adjustments available to any manufacturer who finds or would find himself in a loss position as a result of ceiling prices imposed.
General Overriding Regulation 10 Amendment 2 Issued June 13, 1951 Effective June 13, 1951	Extends provisions of GOR 10 to manufacturers in the territories and possessions.
General Overriding Regulation 13 Issued June 30, 1951 Effective July 1, 1951	Eliminates all requirements for rollbacks after June 30, 1951 and continues price ceilings in effect on June 30, 1951.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Overriding Regulation 13 Interpretation 1 Issued July 10, 1951 Effective July 10, 1951	Interprets the phrase "was in effect on June 30, 1951" as used in GOR 13.
General Overriding Regulation 13 Amendment 1 Issued July 23, 1951 Effective July 23, 1951	Permits a manufacturer to price under CPR 22 if he had complied with the regulation and announced new prices before July 1, even though the price lists were not effective until after July 1.
General Overriding Regulation 16 Issued July 24, 1951 Effective July 24, 1951	Makes a number of temporary changes (for 30 days) in the meat control program to assure an adequate supply of meat in the flood striken states of Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois and Oklahoma.

National Production Authority orders, Department of Commerce

M-28 Issued January 17, 1951 Effective January 17, 1951	Limits the volumn of DO rated orders for certain types of leather which each leather producer must accept. (based on his average monthly production Jan. 1-Oct. 31, 1951)
M-29 Issued January 17, 1951 Effective January 17, 1951	Prohibits tanning of horsehide fronts and deerskins except for the purpose of producing military leathers if such skins are suitable. Also limits use of such leathers to DO rated orders.
M-29, as amended Issued February 19, 1951 Effective February 19, 1951	Makes minor amendments. Permits the processing of individually-owned deerskins into items for personal use or for gifts.
M-29, as amended Issued May 15, 1951 Effective May 15, 1951	Amends M-29 by deleting all reference to horsehide fronts. (Deleted sections on horsehides incorporated in M-62.)

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
M-34 Issued February 5, 1951 Effective February 5, 1951	Requires certain portions of cattle hides be cut and processed to meet military specifications. Requires each sole cutter to set aside a specified number of midsoles and inner soles to meet military requirements.
M-34, as amended Issued March 8, 1951 Effective March 8, 1951	Permits sales of whole stock through intermediaries as well as sole cutters.
M-34, as amended Issued June 28, 1951 Effective June 28, 1951	Amends M-34 by removing the restriction on cutting of whole stock and the sales and delivery of midsoles cut from such stock by certain small sole cutters.
M-35 Issued February 5, 1951 Effective February 5, 1951	Deferred sale and delivery of February production of cattle hides, calfskins, and kips until an adequate distribution program could be developed.
M-35, as amended Issued February 28, 1951 Effective February 28, 1951	Places restrictions on purchase, sale, and delivery of domestic cattlehides, calfskins and kips subject to authorized allocations.
M-35, as amended Issued May 11, 1951 Effective May 11, 1951	Defines "Practicable minimum working inventory as applied to M-35.
M-62 Issued May 15, 1951 Effective May 15, 1951	Provides for an equitable distribution of horsehides, horsehide parts, goatskins, cabrettas, sheepskins, shearlings and kangaroo skins by limiting the number of such skins a tanner can put into process the period May 1, 1951 to June 30, 1951.
M-62 Amendment 1 Issued June 29, 1951 Effective June 29, 1951	Extends the limitations set up in M-62 to July 31, 1951

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-June Av. 1950	Jan.-June Av. 1951	1950 June	1951 May	1951 June	1951 July
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	32.89	39.04	31.34	38.73	37.46	
Choice	do.	28.25	36.09	29.99	36.52	35.68	
Good	do.	25.49	33.47)	27.86	34.03	33.45	
Commercial	do.		31.24)		31.32	30.93	
Utility	do.	22.70	28.77	24.68	28.06	28.02	
All grades	do.	27.26	35.32	30.13	35.71	35.68	
Omaha, all grades	do.	25.86	34.04	28.70	34.17	33.93	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	26.07	34.05	29.02	34.21	34.23	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	20.37	27.70	22.71	28.91	29.08	
Utility	do.	17.77	25.12	19.83	25.88	25.13	
Canner and Cutter	do.	15.27	21.56	16.82	21.63	21.36	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.09	37.80	29.22	37.66	38.65	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	25.47	34.03	27.44	34.29	32.83	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	21.68	29.15	23.70	29.50	29.50	
Veal calves	do.	24.60	33.02	25.90	33.20	33.40	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	17.39	21.24	19.69	20.75	21.91	
180-200 pounds	do.	17.80	21.99	20.30	21.45	22.62	
200-220 pounds	do.	17.86	22.10	20.39	21.61	22.74	
220-240 pounds	do.	17.69	22.00	20.21	21.55	22.58	
240-270 pounds	do.	17.36	21.76	19.74	21.38	22.20	
270-300 pounds	do.	16.93	21.35	19.05	20.98	21.61	
All weights	do.	17.30	21.68	19.68	21.27	22.12	
Seven markets 3/	do.	17.28	21.38	19.65	20.89	21.80	
Sows, Chicago	do.	14.82	18.97	16.35	18.80	19.31	
Price received by farmers	do.	16.65	20.88	18.20	20.40	21.10	
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.5	12.3	13.2	12.0	12.9	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.4	13.0	13.4	12.4	13.0	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	12.06	20.54	8.99	18.06	16.94	
Price received by farmers	do.	10.60	17.23	10.40	16.90	16.50	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.08	37.32	27.65	36.36	34.36	
Price received by farmers	do.	23.72	32.82	24.80	32.60	31.70	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		316	419	342	418	422	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	44.55	56.01	48.49	56.84	56.50	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	50.65	56.16	54.40	58.00	58.00	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	18.84	23.59	20.89	23.91	24.07	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	25.86	32.39	28.68	32.83	33.05	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	21.90	26.38	24.01	26.25	26.30	
Average per 100 pounds	do.						
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	69.6	---	75.5	84.5	---	
Lamb	do.	66.2	---	74.0	77.5	---	
Pork, including lard	do.	37.6	---	40.8	45.1	---	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		221	273	241	276	275	
Retail (1935-39=100) 5/		229	271	247	272	273	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-June 1950	January-June 1951	1950 June	1951 May	1951 June	1951 July
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		134	137	126	138	120	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	804	820	160	124	111	
Sheep and lambs	do.	748	901	166	258	164	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	6,223	5,679	1,066	986	787	
Calves	do.	2,969	2,481	485	414	406	
Sheep and lambs	do.	5,673	4,661	1,019	657	811	
Hogs	do.	27,864	30,501	4,154	4,952	4,700	
Percentage sows	Percent	14	8	27	8	18	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	990	1,006	974	997	978	
Calves	do.	188	182	209	183	209	
Sheep and lambs	do.	99	101	90	100	93	
Hogs	do.	244	247	264	244	261	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	545	558	539	563	556	
Veal, per head	do.	105	103	117	104	120	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	47	48	43	48	45	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	137	137	146	135	144	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	55	55	55	
Lard, per head	do.	36	36	40	36	39	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	15	15	15	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	3,373	3,153	572	552	435	
Veal	do.	310	255	57	43	49	
Lamb and mutton	do.	266	223	44	31	36	
Pork 2/	do.	3,796	4,161	605	665	673	
Lard	do.	1,004	1,107	164	180	183	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	8,568	7,768	1,463	1,328	1,110	
Calves	do.	5,074	4,169	815	672	646	
Sheep and lambs	do.	6,204	5,049	1,121	722	886	
Hogs	do.	33,726	36,689	4,966	5,879	5,570	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	4,452	4,153	753	716	591	
Veal	do.	540	436	97	71	78	
Lamb and mutton	do.	289	238	48	34	39	
Pork 2/	do.	4,535	4,949	710	782	786	
Lard	do.	1,151	1,258	186	204	205	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	72	111	100	87
Veal	do.	---	---	6	7	6	6
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	5	6	5
Pork	do.	---	---	492	654	616	576
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	674	892	839	780

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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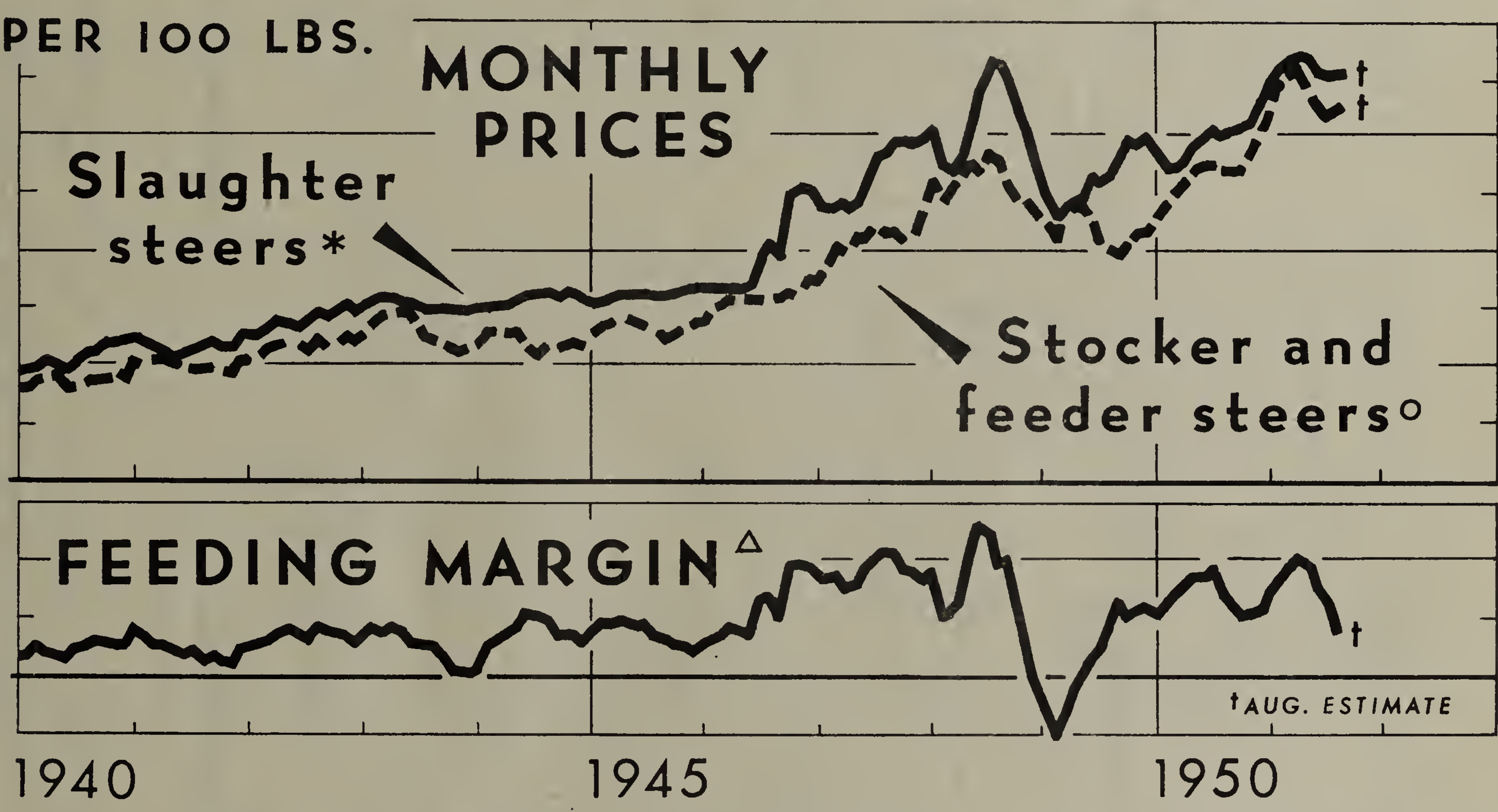
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-54 BAE AUGUST 1951

MARKET PRICES AND FEEDING MARGIN FOR CATTLE

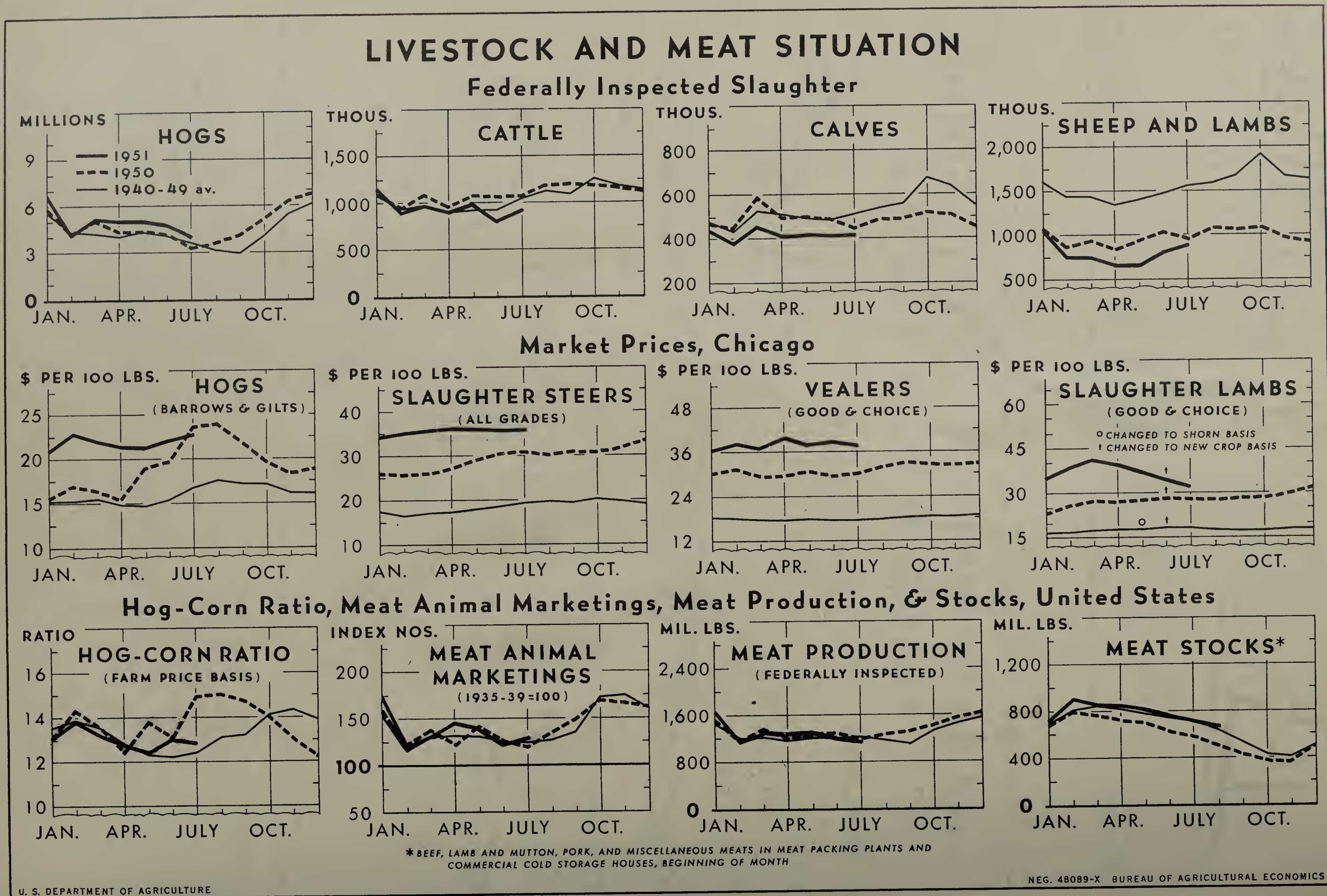


*GOOD GRADE AT CHICAGO ° AVERAGE OF ALL GRADES AT KANSAS CITY
△DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRICES OF SLAUGHTER STEERS AND PRICES OF STOCKERS AND FEEDERS 7 MONTHS EARLIER

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47333-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Prospects are for less favorable margins for cattle feeding this winter than in the past 2 years. Price margins (difference between prices paid for feeder cattle and prices received when sold for slaughter) have been generally high during that period of rising prices. Margins will be small on feeder cattle bought this past spring, when prices were record high.

In August, prices of feeder cattle were still unusually high relative to prices of cattle for slaughter. Feeder prices will probably decline moderately during the large-supply season this fall. Controls now in force would prevent much rise in prices of slaughter cattle.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
THOUS.
CALVES
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
O CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board August 28, 1951

SUMMARY

Marketings and slaughter of livestock are now increasing seasonally. Peaks in slaughter of cattle, calves, sheep, and lambs are likely to occur in October and the high point for hogs is expected in December.

Cattle slaughter, which has been less than last year in every month except January, may again reach the 1950 level sometime this fall. It is expected to include more grass cattle but somewhat fewer fed cattle than a year ago. Calf slaughter will probably continue below last year in most remaining months of 1951.

During much of the fall season, prices are expected to be at or near ceilings as they have been this summer. When marketings of cattle approach their fall peak, prices of some grades may drop below present ceilings.

Hog slaughter during its seasonal rise this fall will continue above last year by about the same degree as it has been since last March. The seasonal price decline this fall may be about the same as last fall. In August, hog prices were slightly lower than a year earlier.

Prices of stocker and feeder cattle in late August were about $4.00 per 100 pounds lower than in early spring. At these purchase prices, returns from cattle feeding in 1952 will be about average if prices of slaughter cattle do not change greatly, but would be considerably less than those of the last 2 years when prices were rising steadily. Present ceilings provide somewhat wider differences between prices of lower and higher grades of slaughter steers than prevailed last year. This points to fairly good prospects for feeding of medium-weight unfinished steers to a higher finish and grade.

After an 8-year decline, sheep and lamb production in the U. S. is increasing. The 1951 lamb crop was up 1 percent from 1950 while the shorn wool clip rose 4 percent. Lamb slaughter, however, is expected to remain below a year earlier through 1951.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Seasonal Increases Due In Livestock Slaughter

Seasonally increasing marketings and slaughter of meat animals were under way in late August. The seasonal increase in hog marketings apparently is about two weeks earlier than usual, but later than usual for cattle. Seasonal peaks are likely about October for slaughter of cattle, calves, and sheep and lambs, and in early December for hogs. These seasonal high points will probably occur later than last year for cattle and for sheep and lambs.

Cattle slaughter has been smaller than a year earlier in every month except January. In part, this reduction has been due to special conditions such as delayed marketings because of good grazing in most regions and the uncertainties about prices. It is also typical of the present stage of the cattle cycle during which marketings are being held down and inventories increased.

Prospects are that during the fall season, when marketings are greatest, cattle slaughter may be about as large as last year. More cattle off grass but somewhat fewer out of feedlots are likely to be slaughtered in the next few months than in the same period last year. This would be the reverse of the recent situation in which slaughter of grain fed cattle was as large as last year but slaughter of grass cattle was much smaller.

More cattle have been grazed on pastures and ranges this summer than last. It seems likely that the number of grass cattle slaughtered will be a little larger than the small number last fall, despite continued interest in retaining cattle for breeding or feeding. The drop in slaughter supplies of grain fed cattle will not be large. It will result from the small volume of short feeding this summer. On July 1, 9 percent less cattle than a year earlier were reported on feed in the Corn Belt. The decline reflected chiefly the smaller number moved into feedlots in the late spring. Movements to feedlots picked up in July, when receipts of feeder cattle and calves in 8 Corn Belt States were 14 percent larger than a year earlier.

Slaughter of fed cattle is likely to decrease only moderately in late months from the early fall high, thus repeating the seasonal pattern of last year. Large slaughter at year's end reflects the increase in long-term feeding of calves which occurred both last year and this.

Hog Slaughter May be Large Early in Season

Slaughter of hogs under Federal inspection in August averaged about 13 percent larger than a year earlier. About the same percentage gain may occur in September, and a large increase seems likely for October. For later months, however, slaughter may be above last year by a smaller percentage.

These prospects are based on the fact that more sows farrowed in the first 3 months of the 1951 spring season than in the same months of 1950. Farrowing in March and April, the months of largest farrowings were about the same in each year. An increase also was reported in May. (table 1.)

Slaughter of the spring crop by months will probably change less from a year earlier than would be suggested by the percentage change in farrowings. Because of variations in the length of time hogs are fed the monthly distribution of marketings is somewhat different from the pattern of farrowings. Moreover, so long as the seasonal price decline is no greater than usual, hogs are likely to be marketed at about the same ages and weights as last fall. Thus a part of the increase in the fall and winter hog slaughter occasioned by the 7 percent larger spring pig crop will be distributed over the entire season, but the greatest percentage increase will probably be in early months.

Table 1.- Number of sows farrowing, by months, spring season, 1951 compared with 1950

Month	Number farrowing		Percentage change
	1951	1950	
	1,000 head	1,000 head	
December 1/	315	272	+15.8
January	525	451	+16.4
February	1,292	1,139	+13.4
March	2,822	2,884	- 2.1
April	3,164	3,151	+ 0.4
May	1,755	1,576	+11.4

1/ of previous year.

Calf, Lamb Slaughter to continue Under 1950

Calf slaughter has been small all year. During the weeks ahead, slaughter is expected to increase seasonally, and will likely average a little smaller than last fall, but in some weeks may exceed the corresponding 1950 slaughter. The same factors and trends that are holding down cattle slaughter this year are also reducing calf slaughter. In the first half of 1951, only 82 percent as many calves were slaughtered in commercial establishments as in the same period of 1950.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs has also been considerably smaller than last year, chiefly because more ewe lambs are being held back for breeding. Indications are that slaughter of sheep and lambs will continue below 1950.

Prices of Cattle Limited by Beef Ceilings

Prices of slaughter cattle have in general been limited by ceiling prices on beef. Ceiling prices of beef at wholesale and retail have remained unchanged, except for certain minor adjustments, since tailored ceilings were imposed in May. Rollbacks scheduled by the Office of Price Stabilization for August 1 and October 1 were cancelled when the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951 became law.

Overall ceiling limitations have been in force on slaughter cattle prices since June 4. The control is exercised through a maximum drove cost each slaughterer is allowed to pay for the cattle he kills during each accounting period. This cost is calculated by applying wholesale beef ceiling prices to his output of beef carcasses as they grade, weigh and dress out. Prices of each grade and class of cattle need not correspond exactly to the wholesale beef ceiling, but any overpricing in one case must be offset by underpricing in another.

Reductions in slaughter cattle price limits also were set for August 1 and October 1 but were nullified by the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951. The Act provides that no ceiling price on an agricultural commodity shall be less than 90 percent of the actual price received by farmers, by grade, on May 19, 1951. Market prices for that date indicate that the cattle price limits established by the June 4 ceilings on beef were less than this minimum (based on May 19, 1951) on the utility grade of cattle but above the minimum for the higher grades. (See discussion of minimum ceilings, page 10.)

Cattle prices continue considerably higher than last year. Average prices at Chicago for most of August are $3.60 to $6.40 per 100 pounds higher than in August 1950 (table 2).

When marketings near their peak this fall, prices of some grades and classes may drop somewhat below their present ceiling equivalent levels, but no marked price weakness is likely.

Table 2.- Price per 100 pounds for selected classes and grades of livestock for slaughter, Chicago, August 1951 compared with August 1950

Class and grade 1/	August 1951 (average for: 4 weeks ended: August 25)	August 1950 2/	Change: Dollars	Change: Percent
	Dollars	Dollars		
Cattle				
Beef steers				
Prime	37.77	31.37	+6.40	+20.4
Utility	27.15	23.51	+3.64	+15.5
Average 5 grades	36.28	30.09	+6.19	+20.6
Cows				
Commercial	28.69	22.74	+5.95	+26.2
Utility	24.37	20.11	+4.26	+21.2
Vealers				
Choice and Prime	36.85	31.84	+5.01	+15.7
Sheep and lambs				
Spring lambs, Choice and Prime	31.61	27.21	+4.40	+16.2
Ewes (shorn), Good and Choice	14.60	11.51	+3.09	+26.8
Hogs				
Barrows and gilts 3/	22.62	23.86	-1.24	- 5.2
Sows	19.26	20.32	-1.06	- 5.2

1/ 1951 grade names. 2/ Price for 1950 grade corresponding to 1951 grade shown.
3/ Average for all weights. Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Hog Prices to Decline Seasonally

Prices of hogs declined in August and for the month averaged slightly lower than a year earlier. The seasonal decline in prices is expected the rest of this year. Demand for meat is probably strong enough so that the total decline probably will not be much different from last fall. Last fall, prices dropped sharply at the first of the season, reaching a low in November. In most years the season's low is in December.

Prices of Feeder Steers $4.00 Below High Point; May Allow About Average Profits from Feeding

Prospects are that if prices of slaughter cattle are about the same next year as this, profits from cattle feeding will be close to average but will not be as great as during the last two years. Prices of feeder cattle are lower in August than in early spring but are higher than a year ago and above an average relationship to prices of slaughter cattle.

Along with rising prices of slaughter cattle, price of stockers and feeders advanced from October 1950 to March 1951 moving up $10.00 per 100 pounds to set a new record. Since then they have declined, partly in response to reductions in prices of slaughter cattle brought about by controls. By late August the average price for stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City was $4.00 per 100 pounds below the late-March peak.

The late August price for feeders was substantially higher than the price in August last year and was a record for the month (table 3). But prices of slaughter steers also were well above a year earlier, and near the August record. The difference between prices of Choice slaughter steers at Chicago and of feeder steers at Kansas City (average for all weights and grades) was about $3.00 per 100 pounds this August, about the same as last August but less than in August of 3 previous years.

Table 3.- Comparisons between prices of selected grades of slaughter and feeder steers, month of August 1947-51

August of	Prices of slaughter steers at Chicago, per 100 pounds 1/			Prices of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City per 100 lbs. 2/	Price comparisons, per 100 pounds		
	Prime	Choice	Medium		Prime minus Medium slaughter steers	Choice minus Medium slaughter steers	Choice slaughter steers minus stocker and feeder steers
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1947	31.91	28.27	21.96	21.22	9.95	6.31	7.05
1948	39.48	36.02	29.15	27.40	10.33	6.87	8.62
1949	28.01	26.50	23.06	20.06	4.95	3.44	6.44
1950	31.37	29.97	28.02	26.90	3.35	1.95	3.07
1951 3/	37.77	35.75	4/31.56	5/32.75	6.21	4.19	3.00

1/ 1951 grade names.

2/ Average for all weights and grades.

3/ Average for 4 weeks ended August 25.

4/ Average of good and commercial.

5/ Average of 3 weeks, no price August 2 because of floods.

Price data compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Comparisons between August prices of feeder and slaughter steers this year do not have the same significance as in years without price ceilings. The reason is that in the absence of controls, prices of the upper grades of slaughter steers change seasonally, rising in the fall and declining in the winter and spring, but present ceilings do not change seasonally.

Demand for Meat a Key Factor in Feeding Outlook

The likelihood that returns from cattle feeding this winter will be as large as average depends largely on whether prices of slaughter cattle next year are about as high as they are now. Prices are limited by ceiling regulations and the authority for price controls extends to June 30, 1952.

Ceilings do not, of course, necessarily determine actual market prices, which would fall below ceilings if demand should weaken or supplies increase substantially. Demand for meat in general and for beef in particular has probably been as strong or stronger this year than ever before, chiefly because employment has been high and incomes large. In recent months inflationary trends in the economy have eased. However, because of continued expansion of defense activities consumer incomes will stay high and demand for beef is expected to continue strong for at least another year.

Feeding Margins Large Past 2 Years; Small on Cattle Bought Early This Year

If slaughter cattle prices hold at present ceiling levels the price margin on feeder steers bought at Kansas City this fall and sold at Chicago next spring as Choice grade fed cattle will be about $3.00 per 100 pounds. This is less than the margins realized on cattle fed and sold in the last 2 years, but more than will be realized on cattle bought last spring for sale this fall. The average margin on cattle sold in 1950 was $6.94 per 100 pounds, and on sales in the first 8 months of 1951 was about $7.79. These margins are computed on a 7 month interval for the feeding period. (table 4).

Price margins on cattle bought this past winter and spring and sold this fall will be small as present prices of Choice slaughter cattle at Chicago are no higher than average feeder steer prices at Kansas City in March and April.

Two independent trends have been responsible for the rise in cattle prices that caused the wide feeding margins of the last two years: the buying power of consumers and demand for meat have increased; and cattle slaughter has been reduced as fewer cattle have been marketed and more retained on farms. Consumers' incomes rose when the mild 1949 recession ended at about the beginning of 1950 and were boosted after the Korean outbreak. At the same time, the total slaughter of cattle and calves was reduced 1.1 million head in 1950 as the rate of addition to inventories was stepped up from 2 million head during 1949 to 4 million during 1950. This year, slaughter may be almost 2 million smaller than last year and the increase in the inventory may amount to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$-6 million head.

Table 4. - Price of Choice grade slaughter steers at Chicago and of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City, and 7 months lagged margin, by months, 1942 to date

(Data for cover page)

Year and month	Price per 100 pounds: Choice grade slaughter steers, Chicago 1/	Price per 100 pounds: Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	Margin between slaughter steers, and stockers and feeders 7 months previous 2/	Year and month	Price per 100 pounds: Choice grade slaughter steers Chicago 1/	Price per 100 pounds: Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	Margin between slaughter steers and stockers, and feeders 7 months previous 2/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1942				1947			
Jan.	12.54	10.57	2.64	Jan.	23.93	17.68	8.21
Feb.	12.47	10.69	2.88	Feb.	23.79	18.96	8.26
Mar.	13.03	11.47	3.24	Mar.	24.05	20.13	8.54
Apr.	13.83	11.93	3.85	Apr.	23.45	19.91	7.46
May	13.65	12.00	4.12	May	24.22	21.33	7.80
June	13.12	11.83	3.77	June	25.72	21.11	9.42
July	13.75	11.09	3.29	July	27.64	21.91	10.01
Aug.	14.87	12.05	4.30	Aug.	28.27	21.22	10.59
Sept.	14.63	11.64	3.94	Sept.	29.43	21.65	10.47
Oct.	15.07	11.83	3.60	Oct.	29.55	20.96	9.42
Nov.	15.40	12.62	3.47	Nov.	29.12	21.32	9.21
Dec.	14.90	12.24	2.90	Dec.	29.62	23.59	8.29
1943				1948			
Jan.	15.05	12.67	3.22	Jan.	30.36	26.31	9.25
Feb.	15.53	13.48	4.44	Feb.	27.10	24.15	5.19
Mar.	15.92	14.49	3.87	Mar.	26.92	25.57	5.70
Apr.	15.91	14.58	4.27	Apr.	28.17	26.62	6.52
May	15.59	14.60	3.76	May	30.91	27.80	9.95
June	15.50	14.38	2.88	June	34.85	26.96	13.53
July	15.06	12.48	2.82	July	36.44	28.25	12.85
Aug.	15.29	12.17	2.62	Aug.	36.02	27.40	9.71
Sept.	15.27	11.81	1.79	Sept.	34.49	25.42	10.34
Oct.	14.92	11.36	0.43	Oct.	32.24	24.41	6.67
Nov.	14.98	10.97	0.40	Nov.	30.68	24.52	4.06
Dec.	14.89	11.29	0.29	Dec.	27.82	23.26	0.22
1944				1949			
Jan.	15.00	11.60	0.62	Jan.	24.72	22.15	-2.24
Feb.	15.12	12.95	2.64	Feb.	22.99	21.25	-5.26
Mar.	15.23	13.06	3.06	Mar.	24.19	24.37	-3.21
Apr.	15.33	12.76	3.52	Apr.	24.37	23.66	-1.05
May	15.73	12.84	4.37	May	24.92	24.02	0.51
June	16.23	11.65	5.26	June	26.37	22.53	1.85
July	16.35	10.93	5.06	July	25.96	20.62	2.70
Aug.	16.42	11.50	4.82	Aug.	26.50	20.06	4.35
Sept.	16.26	11.34	3.31	Sept.	28.22	19.74	6.97
Oct.	16.56	11.50	3.50	Oct.	29.63	20.57	5.26
Nov.	16.27	11.96	3.51	Nov.	29.35	21.45	5.69
Dec.	15.62	11.49	2.78	Dec.	29.91	21.44	5.89
1945				1950			
Jan.	15.35	12.40	3.70	Jan.	28.14	22.94	5.61
Feb.	15.42	13.00	4.49	Feb.	27.19	24.13	6.57
Mar.	15.81	13.60	4.31	Mar.	27.33	25.32	7.27
Apr.	16.11	13.90	4.77	Apr.	27.66	25.79	7.92
May	16.16	14.23	4.66	May	29.19	27.19	8.62
June	16.16	13.73	4.20	June	29.99	27.44	8.54
July	16.17	13.54	4.68	July	30.62	27.48	9.18
Aug.	15.98	13.08	3.58	Aug.	29.97	26.90	7.03
Sept.	16.15	12.25	3.15	Sept.	30.32	26.90	6.19
Oct.	16.45	12.62	2.85	Oct.	30.42	26.92	5.10
Nov.	16.56	13.19	2.66	Nov.	31.24	28.46	5.45
Dec.	16.45	13.41	2.22	Dec.	32.98	29.45	5.79
1946				1951			
Jan.	16.51	13.56	2.78	Jan.	34.77	31.88	7.33
Feb.	16.36	14.71	2.82	Feb.	35.98	34.42	8.50
Mar.	16.37	15.22	3.29	Mar.	36.67	35.12	9.77
Apr.	16.46	15.86	4.21	Apr.	36.93	35.64	10.03
May	16.55	15.82	3.93	May.	36.52	34.29	9.60
June	16.98	15.72	3.79	June	35.68	32.83	7.22
July	19.86	15.53	6.45	July	35.47	31.61	6.02
Aug.	20.73	15.51	7.17	Aug.	3/ 35.76	32.75	3.88
Sept.	19.58	15.99	4.87	Sept.			
Oct.	24.97	16.42	9.75	Oct.			
Nov.	25.63	16.30	9.77	Nov.			
Dec.	25.28	17.63	9.46	Dec.			

1/ Choice grade steers, 1951 name, were called Good grade in earlier years. 2/ Margin between prices of Choice grade slaughter steers at Chicago for current month shown and of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City 7 months previously.
3/ Average for first 3 weeks.
Market price data compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

To the extent that they are effective, present price controls will prevent strengthening of demand from increasing the prices of beef and cattle. And there is little doubt that cattle slaughter this year will be the smallest for the present cattle cycle. Trends in demand and in cattle slaughter may have more meaning for the longer-time cattle outlook than for cattle feeding this winter. Just as demand is unlikely to weaken much in the next 6 to 9 months, cattle slaughter in that period is not expected to increase greatly compared with a year earlier. Marked increases in cattle slaughter will probably not come for another year or two.

Cattle Prices Favorable in Relation to Prices of Feed

Prices of slaughter cattle are considerably above the long-time average relationship to prices of feed, as they have been in the last 3 years. This favorable price ratio encourages a large volume of feeding. It also permits relatively high prices to be paid for feeder cattle. Furthermore, it gives an advantage to long term feeding, in which the cost of the feed is a higher proportion and cost of cattle a smaller proportion of total costs than they are when short term feeding is practiced. Comparatively low costs of feed are one reason for the increased feeding of calves in the last two years--which in turn is reflected in reduced calf slaughter.

Ceilings Provide Wider Price Spread Between Slaughter Grades Than in 1950

Under the schedule of price ceilings on cattle the price spread between upper and lower grades of slaughter steers this August was wider than in August of the last two years. (Table 3) This fairly wide spread points to prospects for average returns from fattening medium weight unfinished cattle to a higher weight and grade, a special type of feeding common in the Corn Belt just after the corn harvest.

Because price ceilings do not permit much chance for increases in prices of cattle, they discourage feeding programs that depend mainly on speculative increases in prices. Less short-term feeding of this sort therefore seems likely this winter. Also, it is doubtful that incentives under controls are particularly great for finishing cattle to the top, Prime, grade.

New Minimum Ceiling Price Determinations

The Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951 added a third standard for determining legal minimum ceiling prices on agricultural products to the two previously contained in the Defense Production Act of 1950. The 3 standards are: (1) the parity price, (2) the highest price received between May 24 and June 24, 1950, and (3) 90 percent of the price received by producers (by grade) on May 19, 1951. Of these, the two historical prices are fixed, but parity can change each month.

In early September, with parity as computed for August 15, the average minimum prices under the three standards for the various meat animals (on the basis of United States average price received by farmers) are as shown in table 5. For all meat animals except hogs, 90 percent of the May 19, 1951 price is the highest of the three standards and therefore, at this time, is the controlling factor in determining effective minimums for ceiling price purposes.

Prices for beef cattle, by grade, on May 19, 1951 the third standard for determining legal minimum price ceilings (as provided for under the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951) were separately determined by the Secretary of Agriculture on the basis of Chicago prices. These minimum prices are listed in table 6 with the approximate OPS ceiling-equivalents for live cattle, at Chicago, that have been in effect since June 4.

It is not known what weights will be given the prices of the various classes in each grade. However, from inspection of the prices an upward adjustment seems to be required only for the Utility grade.

Shorn Wool Production Up 4 Percent

Production of shorn wool in 1951 is estimated at 229 million pounds, 9 million pounds or 4 percent more than was shorn last year.

This is the second year of increase after 7 successive years of decline. The 1951 production is 27 percent less than the 1940-49 average and 41 percent less than the 1942 high.

Production was larger this year because 2 percent more sheep were shorn--reflecting a gradual expansion of sheep numbers now under way--and because the average weight per fleece increased to a new high of 8.23 pounds. The weight last year was 8.11 pounds and the 10-year average was 8.00 pounds. Fleece weights were unusually heavy this year in the Northern Mountain and Northern Plains States.

Shorn wool production was smaller this year than last in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona, where dry weather has been a handicap. In every other State except Louisiana and some of the North Atlantic States, production in 1951 is equal to or larger than last year's production.

Lamb Crop Slightly Larger This Year

The 1951 lamb crop of an estimated 18,761,000 head is about 1 percent larger than the 1950 crop, the first increase since 1941. There are about 300,000 more ewes in the breeding herd this year than last. The percentage lamb crop--the number of lambs per 100 ewes--was about the same as last year.

The lamb crop in the Native (eastern) States is 5 percent larger than last year. Ewe numbers there were up 4 percent and the percentage crop 1 percent higher. In the West, the crop was virtually unchanged from 1950. As in the East, ewe numbers were larger; but because of dry weather the percentage lamb crop in Texas was sharply reduced, cutting down the average for the West. One-half million fewer lambs were saved in Texas this year than last.

Slaughter Quotas Ended August 1

Quotas on slaughter of livestock were ended August 1, having been prohibited by the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951. Under the quotas, which were in effect 4 months on cattle and 3 months on other livestock, each slaughterer was permitted to slaughter in a compliance period, usually 1 month, no more than a stated percentage of his slaughter in the same period of 1950. Since all slaughterers had the same percentage quota, except for occasional modifications, it was intended that by this system the distribution of slaughter and of meat by firms and regions would be kept about the same under price controls as it had been previously.

Quotas ranged from as low as 80 percent for cattle, calves and sheep in some months to as high as 115 percent for hogs in June. On July 18 the original United States July quota for slaughter of calves and hogs was increased (table 5). In several instances quotas were increased for slaughterers in a particular region. In addition, in June and July slaughterers who supplied more beef or pork to the armed forces than they had supplied a year earlier were allowed to add the additional quantities to their quotas on cattle and hogs, within a maximum allowance of 15 percent. Finally, up to 5 percent of a monthly quota that was not used could be carried over to the next month, but no longer.

Table 5.- Legal minimums for meat animals, on the basis of average prices received by farmers, according to 3 standards, September 1, 1951 1/

Meat animal	Price received May 19, 1951 per 100 pounds	Standards (price per 100 pounds): 90 percent of price May 19, 1951 2/	Highest price May 24-June 24, 1950 3/	Parity price, August 15 1951	Minimum ceiling per 100 pounds
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Beef cattle	29.30	26.40	23.80	19.80	26.40
Veal calves	33.40	30.10	28.30	22.10	30.10
Sheep	16.80	15.10	12.00	11.20 4/	15.10
Lambs	32.40	29.20	26.40	21.70	29.20
Hogs	20.50	18.40	19.70	21.30	21.30

1/ As provided for under Section 302 (d) (3) of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended.
2/ U. S. averages for all grades. Legal minimum prices under this standard are actually for prices by grades.
3/ As adjusted for seasonal.
4/ Transitional parity, 90 percent of parity price computed under formula in use prior to January 1, 1950.

Table 6.- Ninety percent of prices for beef cattle, by grade, at Chicago on May 19, 1951, and approximate ceiling equivalent for beef cattle at Chicago established June 4, 1951 1/

Class and grade	90 percent of price per 100 pounds, at Chicago, May 19, 1951 1/	Approximate live-cattle ceiling equivalent per 100 lbs., Chicago, June 4, 1951 2/
	Dollars	Dollars
All classes except bulls		
Prime		
Steers	34.54)	
Heifers	33.98)	37.00
Choice		
Steers	32.85)	
Heifers	32.18)	34.20
Good		
Steers	30.38)	
Heifers	29.92)	31.50
Commercial		
Steers	27.45)	
Heifers	27.11)	27.30
Cows	26.32)	
Utility		
Steers	24.75)	
Heifers	24.41)	21.80
Cows	23.18)	
Canner and cutter cows	19.35	19.50
Bulls		
Good	27.22)	
Commercial	27.34)	27.40
Utility	25.54)	
Cutter	23.51)	

1/ This is only one of 3 standards (see table 5), but is the only one now carried out by grade.
2/ Averages for all classes in each grade, derived from Chicago wholesale ceiling prices for beef at representative dressing yields.

Table 7.- Slaughter quotas issued by OPS during the 1951 quota program, and actual changes in live weight of commercial slaughter from a year earlier

Month	Quota 1/				Live weight of commercial slaughter, 1951, as percent of year earlier			
	Cattle	Calves	Sheep lambs	Hogs	Cattle	Calves	Sheep lambs	Hogs
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
April	100	---	---	---	94.5	---	---	---
May	98	80	80	110	90.8	75.2	72.8	112.4
June	80	80	80	115	76.5	78.9	81.5	111.0
July	90	2/85		2/105				
		3/100		3/110				

1/ In addition there were in some or all months special allowances for military contracts, increases in quotas on a regional basis, and special relief for hardship cases. Also, unused quotas could be carried over to the next month, within a 5 percent limit. 2/ As first announced. 3/ As changed July 18.

Table 8 corrects table 1, page 5, of the July Situation, which carried unrevised figures for 1950 commercial meat production.

Table 9 presents an annual series on imports of cattle and calves from Canada and Mexico since 1934, with monthly data for 1951 to date.

About 400,000 cattle and calves for feeding or slaughter have been received from Canada in each of the last 3 years. This year the imports have been smaller; about 125,000 head were received in the first six months. Canadian cattle herds have been reduced and will not provide as many cattle as formerly above the number required by domestic Canadian needs.

Imports of cattle from Canada increased sharply in 1948 because wartime Canadian restrictions were removed. Imports of live cattle from Mexico were stopped at the end of 1946 when an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was discovered.

Table 8.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-year, 1949 to first half 1951

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
			All Meat		
1949	5,020	4,537	4,704	5,453	19,714
1950	5,076	4,740	4,767	5,648	20,231
1951	5,124	4,652			
			Beef		
1949	2,270	2,233	2,399	2,240	9,142
1950	2,231	2,221	2,415	2,381	9,248
1951	2,188	1,965			
			Veal		
1949	271	286	347	336	1,240
1950	263	277	312	285	1,137
1951	220	216			
			Lamb and mutton		
1949	158	114	154	161	587
1950	150	139	149	143	581
1951	130	108			
			Pork excluding lard		
1949	2,321	1,904	1,804	2,716	8,745
1950	2,432	2,103	1,891	2,839	9,265
1951	2,586	2,363			

Table 9.-- Imports of cattle and calves into the United States from Canada and Mexico, by years, 1934-50, by months to date, 1951

Year	Cattle and calves					
	Canada			Mexico		
	Cattle for breeding	Other edible cattle	Calves 1/	Cattle for breeding	Other edible cattle	Calves 1/
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1934	5,603	1,825	0	1,237	55,853	---
1935	13,066	112,720	0	280	251,090	---
1936	10,346	178,368	55,695	684	162,431	1,615
1937	11,350	214,546	80,792	692	197,509	1,259
1938	9,080	92,118	45,645	383	283,800	2,062
1939	9,599	192,552	81,832	267	445,306	33,259
1940	12,904	144,675	74,681	602	380,922	29,921
1941	16,139	173,795	62,419	235	456,373	39,776
1942	16,107	144,017	53,015	81	442,039	13,503
1943	22,369	36,292	5,986	582	579,071	8,283
1944	16,748	34,826	5,551	26	300,790	310
1945	22,165	45,530	8,428	9	434,111	1,315
1946	41,919	67,609	9,345	152	438,031	708
1947	29,869	45,379	7,642	0	2/ 1,430	0
1948	42,853	395,255	23,571	0	0	0
1949	21,332	370,591	41,535	0	0	0
1950	22,610	399,300	38,985	0	0	0
1951						
January	1,143	19,741	878	0	0	0
February	1,705	21,199	834	0	0	0
March	1,482	21,669	966	0	0	0
April	2,158	22,069	1,973	0	0	0
May	1,920	19,474	3,535	0	0	0
June	1,705	14,373	2,330	0	0	0

1/ Under 200 pounds.
2/ Cattle from Mexico were actually imported on December 26, 1946; books had been closed so they were reported in January 1947.
Compiled from reports on foreign trade of United States, Department of Commerce.

Digest of O.P.S. and N.P.A. Regulations Affecting Meat Animals

The following is a list of regulations supplementing that appearing in the July Livestock and Meat Situation. Reference should be made to the original order in determining the application of amendments listed below.

Regulations issued by the Office of Price Stabilization,
Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 7 Issued August 1, 1951 Effective August 1, 1951	Cancels the provisions of DR 1, relating to quotas on livestock slaughter.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 47 Correction Issued July 30, 1951 Effective Jul7 30, 1951	Permits a maximum of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of fat rather than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on back of loin. Allows seller to add 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound for bladeless loins.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amendment 5 Issued August 14, 1951 Effective August 17, 1951	Allows a wholesaling-retailer to use his regular wholesale ceiling prices established under CPR 14 in figuring his retail ceiling prices. (Applies to a highly specialized type of operation and is of limited application.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 20 Issued July 30, 1951 Effective July 31, 1951	Extends the mandatory effective date of CPR 22 to August 13. Restates that ceilings under CPR 22 must be computed on the basis of the formulas in the regulations and makes other changes concerning the date on which price changes go into effect.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 21 Issued August 9, 1951 Effective August 13, 1951	Postpones indefinitely the mandatory effective date of CPR 22, pending issuance of regulations reflecting the recent amendments to the Defense Production Act of 1950
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 15 Issued July 30, 1951 Effective August 6, 1951	Provides a new method to be used after September 15, 1951, for calculating all material cost adjustments in getting a ceiling price for sterile canned meat and dry sausage. Establishes mandatory base period, April 1, 1950 to June 24, 1950

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 4 Issued August 1, 1951 Effective August 1, 1951	Cancels the schedule of wholesale beef prices which were to have gone into effect on August 1, 1951. Prohibits the importation of beef purchased at prices above domestic ceilings at the point of consignment, and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 31 Amendment 6 Issued July 31, 1951 Effective July 31, 1951	Provides an effective date of September 1,1951 for CPR 31. . Also restates the provision for determining the ceiling price of the imported commodities covered by CPR 31.
Ceiling Price Regulation 31 Amendment 7 Issued August 30, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Extends the filing date for importer-retailers until October 1, simplifies the reporting requirements, provides an adjustment section, and permits use of a proposed ceiling price after a waiting period of 10 days.
Ceiling Price Regulation 41 Amendment 2 Issued July 30, 1951 Effective July 31, 1951	Extends the period during which either the GCPR or CPR 41 may be used to August 13, 1951. After that date CPR 41 must be used.
Ceiling Price Regulation 41 Amendment 3 Issued August 13, 1951 Effective August 13, 1951	Postpones indefinately the mandatory effective date of CPR 41 pending issuance of regulations reflecting the recent amendments to the Defense Production Act of 1950.
Ceiling Price Regulation 61 Issued July 30, 1951 Effective August 6, 1951	Establishes export ceiling prices from continent U.S. and territories at the same relationship they bore to domestic prices before the Korean outbreak (base period 18 months ending June 30, 1950). Applies to all exports of meat except sales covered by GCPR, SR 34, and CPR 24.
Ceiling Price Regulation 61 Correction Issued August 3, 1951 Effective August 26, 1951.	Corrects the effective date of CPR 61 to read August 26, 1951.

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Overriding Regulation 13 Revocation Issued July 30, 1951 Effective July 30, 1951	Revokes GOR 13, as it is no longer necessary.
Notice of Continuation of Existing Regulations Issued August 1, 1951 Effective August 1, 1951	Confirms and continues all regulations, rules, orders and requirements issued on or before July 31, 1951, according to their term.
National Production Authority orders, Department of Commerce	
M-18 Issued December 21, 1950 Effective December 21, 1950	Imposes limitations on inventories, processing, mixing and preparation of bristles (hog bristles) for manufacture of brushes.
M-18, as amended January 12, 1951 Issued January 12, 1951 Effective January 12, 1951	Amends and restates M-18. Places additional limitations on the use of hog bristles, and makes other changes.
M-18, as amended March 30, 1951 Issued March 30, 1951 Effective March 30, 1951	Amends and restates M-18 as amended January 12, 1951. Requires standardization of brushes manufactured from hog bristles.
M-18, as amended July 3, 1951 Issued July 3, 1951 Effective July 3, 1951	Amends and restates the regulation, changes restrictions on the use of hog bristles for certain types of brushes, and makes other minor changes.
M-34, Revocation Issues July 31, 1951 Effective July 31, 1951	Revokes M-34, as amended, effective July 31, 1951.
M-62 Amendment 2 Issued August 1, 1951 Effective August 1, 1951	Extends the limitations set up in M-62 to September 30, 1951.
M-62, as amended Issued August 14, 1951 Effective August 14, 1951	Removes the restrictions on the processing of horsehide fronts for military use.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.- July Av. 1950	Jan.- July Av. 1951	1950 July	1951 June	1951 July	1951 Aug.
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	32.71	38.80	31.63	37.46	37.37	
Choice	do.	28.59	36.00	30.62	35.68	35.47	
Good	do.	25.95	(33.41)	28.68	33.45	33.05	
Commercial	do.		(31.06)		30.93	30.00	
Utility	do.	22.91	28.55	24.16	28.02	27.23	
All grades	do.	27.75	35.38	30.67	35.68	35.75	
Omaha, all grades	do.	26.37	34.05	29.46	33.93	34.15	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	26.59	34.16	29.74	34.23	34.58	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	20.78	27.81	23.25	29.08	28.50	
Utility	do.	18.15	24.99	20.43	25.13	24.21	
Canner and Cutter	do.	15.67	21.49	18.07	21.36	21.04	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.09	37.75	30.10	38.65	37.45	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	25.76	33.68	27.48	32.83	31.61	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	22.07	29.13	24.40	29.50	29.00	29.10
Veal calves	do.	24.89	32.94	26.60	33.40	32.50	32.60
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	18.21	21.38	23.16	21.91	22.21	
180-200 pounds	do.	18.69	22.14	24.09	22.62	23.03	
200-220 pounds	do.	18.77	22.25	24.22	22.74	23.17	
220-240 pounds	do.	18.60	22.13	24.04	22.58	22.90	
240-270 pounds	do.	18.22	21.83	23.39	22.20	22.28	
270-300 pounds	do.	17.71	21.35	22.39	21.61	21.36	
All weights	do.	18.19	21.80	23.55	22.12	22.50	
Seven markets 3/	do.	18.17	21.47	23.50	21.80	22.01	
Sows, Chicago	do.	15.41	18.96	18.97	19.31	18.85	
Price received by farmers	do.	17.26	20.87	20.90	21.10	20.80	21.20
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.8	12.4	15.1	12.9	12.8	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.6	13.0	14.5	13.0	12.8	12.8
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.67	19.73	9.32	16.94	14.88	
Price received by farmers	do.	10.57	16.99	10.40	16.50	15.50	15.00
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice. Chicago	do.	26.26	36.54	27.37	34.36	31.90	
Price received by farmers	do.	23.86	32.44	24.70	31.70	30.20	29.80
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		324	418	371	422	414	416
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	45.26	56.08	49.50	56.50	56.50	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.11	56.42	53.88	58.00	58.00	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	19.63	23.64	24.31	24.07	23.96	
Average per 100 pounds	do.						
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	22.72	26.34	27.62	26.30	26.09	
Average per 100 pounds	do.						
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	70.7	84.6	77.9	84.7	---	
Lamb	do.	68.4	76.0	73.0	78.4	---	
Pork, including lard	do.	38.5	45.1	43.7	45.4	---	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		227	273	260	275	275	
Retail (1935-39=100)		233	272	257	273	274	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan-July 1950	Jan-July 1951	1950 July	1951 June	1951 July	1951 August
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		132	136	119	120	128	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	956	993	152	111	173	
Sheep and lambs	do.	902	1,069	153	164	168	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	7,293	6,599	1,070	787	920	
Calves	do.	3,412	2,889	443	406	408	
Sheep and lambs	do.	6,632	5,524	960	811	863	
Hogs	do.	31,178	34,327	3,314	4,700	3,826	
Percentage sows	Percent	17	11	38	18	33	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	987	1,002	973	978	978	
Calves	do.	193	189	226	209	233	
Sheep and lambs	do.	98	100	91	93	93	
Hogs	do.	248	250	278	261	276	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	543	557	535	556	550	
Veal, per head	do.	108	108	127	120	133	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	47	48	44	45	44	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	138	156	144	151	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	56	55	55	
Lard, per head	do.	37	37	40	39	41	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	14	15	15	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	3,943	3,656	570	435	503	
Veal	do.	366	309	56	49	54	
Lamb and mutton	do.	308	261	42	36	38	
Pork 2/	do.	4,311	4,737	515	673	577	
Lard	do.	1,138	1,264	133	183	157	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	10,042	9,054	1,474	1,110	1,287	
Calves	do.	5,841	4,834	767	646	665	
Sheep and lambs	do.	7,266	5,996	1,062	886	948	
Hogs	do.	37,756	41,280	4,030	5,570	4,591	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	5,206	4,829	754	591	676	
Veal	do.	637	522	97	78	86	
Lamb and mutton	do.	335	280	46	39	42	
Pork 2/	do.	5,143	5,625	608	786	676	
Lard	do.	1,304	1,435	153	205	177	
Cold-storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	60	100	90	85
Veal	do.	---	---	7	6	6	7
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	7	6	5	6
Pork	do.	---	---	469	616	572	500
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	633	839	778	699

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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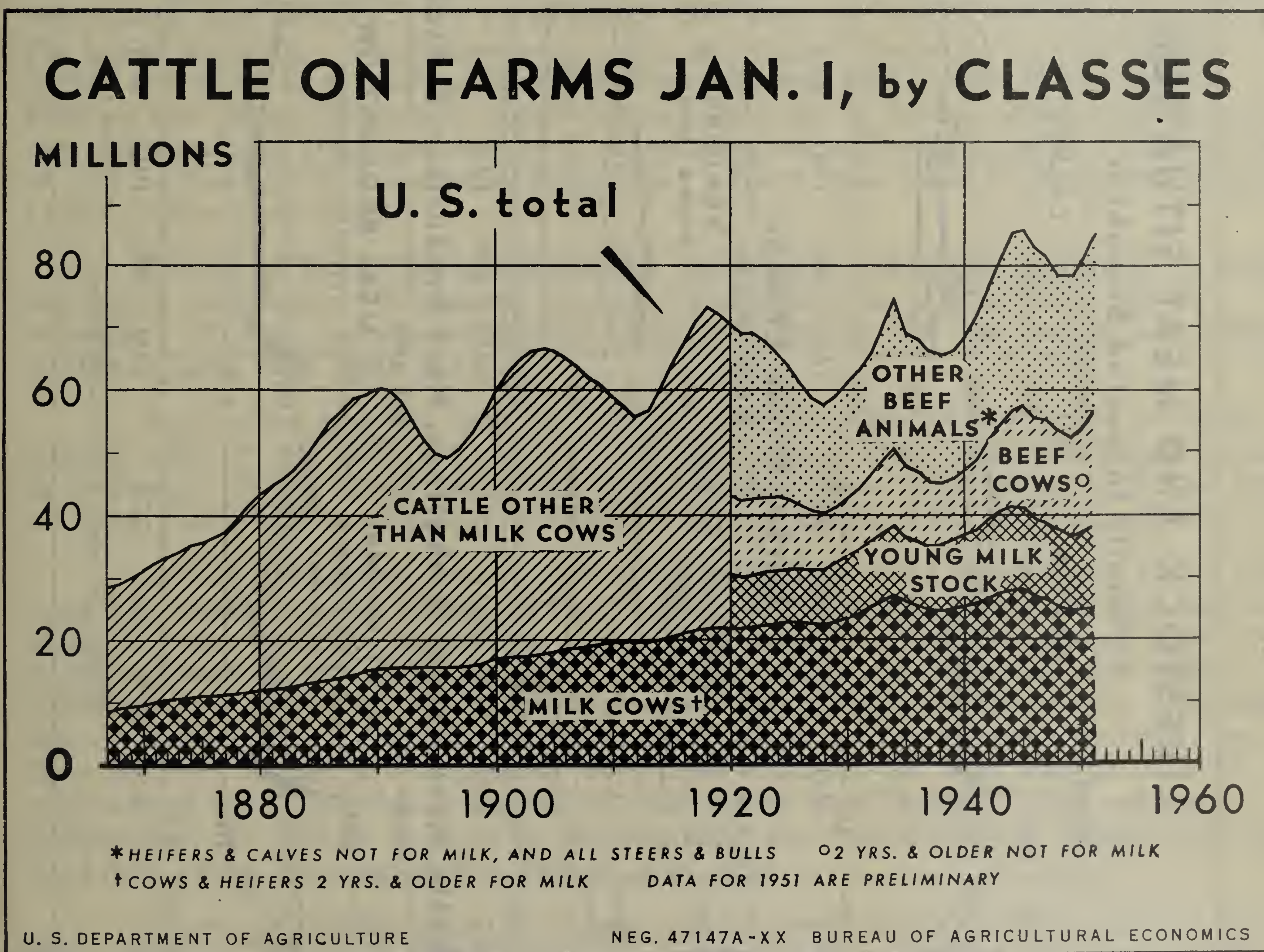
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

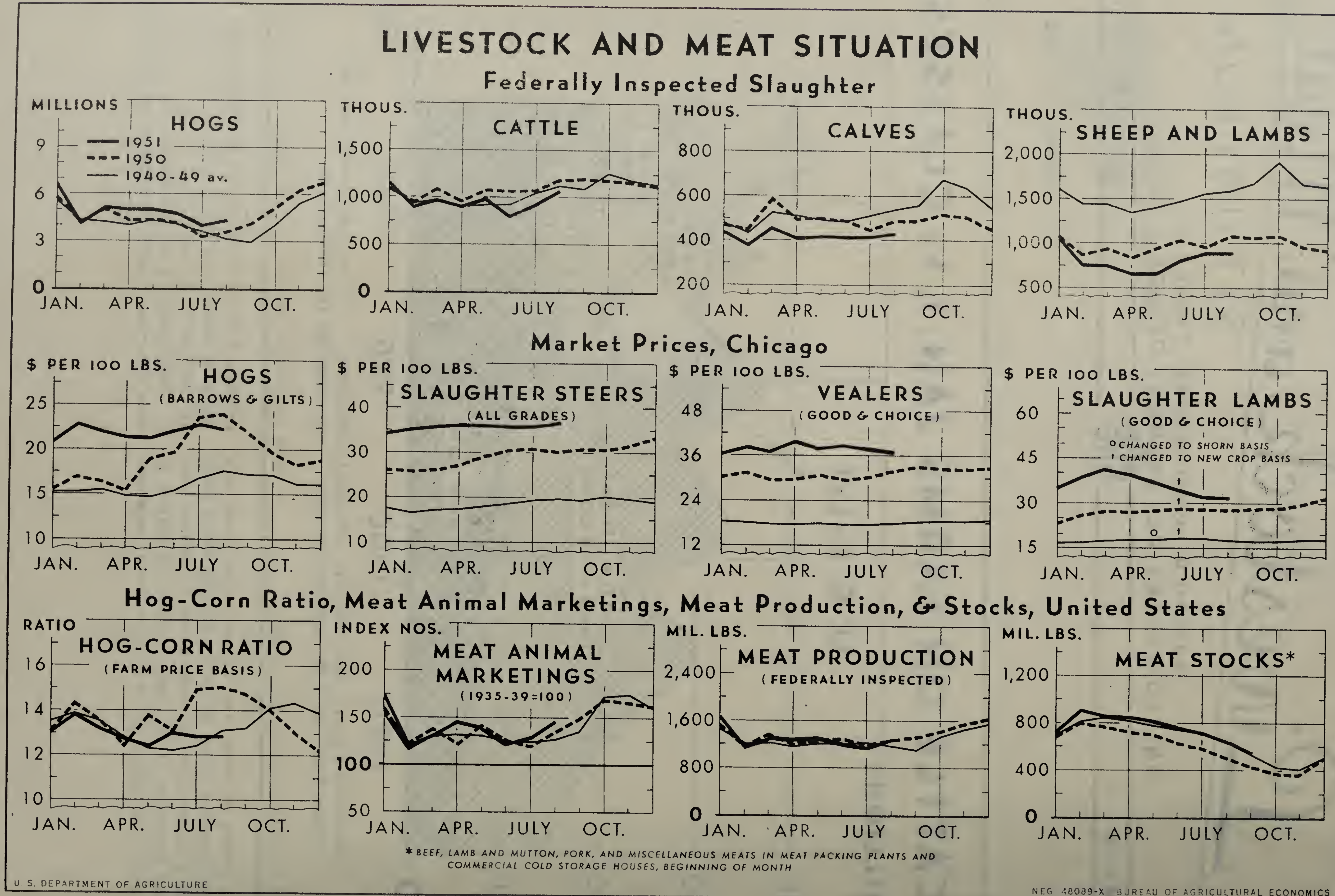
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-55 BAE SEPTEMBER 1951



Numbers of cattle and calves on farms are now on the upswing phase of the sixth cycle since 1880. In 1951 numbers are increasing from 84 million head at the beginning of the year to about 90 million at the end. If the pattern of previous cycles is repeated, numbers will continue upward in the next few years but at a slower rate than in 1951. They may reach 100 million by the mid-1950's.

Accompanying the sizable gain in inventory numbers this year, cattle slaughter is at an 8-year low.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
THOUS.
CALVES
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, September 25, 1951

SUMMARY

Hog slaughter up to late September had been exceptionally large for the season. It probably will increase less rapidly than usual from now until December, when the seasonal peak is expected. Federally inspected slaughter of hogs was 17 percent larger in August and around 10 to 12 percent larger in September than in those months last year, but the percentage gain over a year earlier will drop to a considerably smaller figure in the next two or three months.

The large early slaughter reflects in part the greater number of early farrowings last winter. It is evidence too that the trend toward fast feeding for quick maturity, which has been under way since the war, is continuing. Market receipts have also included larger numbers than last year of heavy barrows and gilts from fall farrowings as well as of sows. This combination of new and old crop hogs has resulted in average market weights about the same as at the beginning of the season last year. There have been no big marketings of light, unfinished hogs.

Prices of hogs, particularly for the lighter weights, declined in August and early September. A general seasonal reduction is likely until about December. Prices have been below a year earlier and for the season may average a little less than last fall.

Hog prices are now near an average relationship to the price of corn. During most of the past 3 years the hog-corn price ratio has been above average. As a result of the lower ratio and of prospects for a corn crop about the same as last year, little if any increase is likely in the 1951 spring pig crop.

Cattle slaughter, now rising seasonally but still below last year, will pass the seasonal peak within a few weeks. It is questionable whether cattle slaughter for the fourth quarter will reach that for the like period last year. Large marketings of cattle from dry areas of Texas and Oklahoma have gone chiefly to pastures and feedlots elsewhere rather than to slaughter. Movement out of other range areas is late this year. Fed cattle marketings from the Corn Belt in August and September were less than in the same months of 1950, reflecting the 9 percent decrease in numbers on feed July 1. Fed cattle marketings are likely to hold up well during the rest of 1951, though remaining a little below the comparable period last year.

Prices of cattle have been near ceiling-equivalent levels, except for some seasonal widening of the spread between grades. Prices are expected to continue fairly steady, although some weakening is possible at times of largest marketings.

Even with the seasonally large marketings that are expected in the fourth quarter, cattle slaughter for 1951 will likely total no more than 18 million head. This would be the smallest annual slaughter in at least 8 years. Cattle numbers are rising. By next January 1, there will be around 6 million more head of cattle and calves on farms than a year earlier, setting a new high record.

Largely because of the reduced cattle slaughter, meat consumption per person has been slightly smaller this year than last. Larger consumption of pork has not entirely offset a smaller consumption of other meats. With a large cattle slaughter and beef supply in the last quarter, consumption of all meat per person for 1951 may about equal the 144 pounds of last year.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Hog Marketings Large for Early in Season

Hog slaughter stepped up sharply in mid-August as new-crop hogs were marketed in volume. The seasonal increase in slaughter started about a month earlier than in years before the war. Slaughter under Federal inspection in August was 17 percent larger than a year earlier. It was the second largest August slaughter on record and was the largest ever in relation to the size of the pig crop. According to weekly reports, slaughter in September was about 10 to 12 percent above last September. These gains are much more than the 7 percent margin by which the 1951 spring pig crop exceeded the previous spring crop.

Early marketings this year have come about in part because more sows farrowed in mid-winter, producing pigs for an early market. The number of sows farrowing last December and January was 16 percent larger than a year before. The number in February was up 13 percent. A second cause is the trend toward feeding hogs for marketing at a younger age which has been evident since the war.

New-crop hogs have been marketed at about the same weights as at the beginning of last fall. Very light, unfinished hogs have been no more numerous than usual.

Larger receipts of sows in August and September this year than last contributed some of the increase in total hog slaughter. Sows were marketed later in the season this summer than last. In addition, marketings probably included a larger than usual number of hogs from the fall pig crop that have been fed to rather heavy weights.

Hog Slaughter to Increase Seasonally at Slower Rate Than Last Fall

The seasonal increase in hog slaughter will continue until about early December but at a slower rate than last year. The percentage increase over last year will diminish gradually to a small figure by year's end.

Total hog slaughter for the fall season may be the largest on record, possibly exceeding even the previous high in the fall of 1943. In that year the greater part of the record spring crop was sold after January 1.

Prices of Hogs Decline;
Will Continue Downward

Under pressure of increased supplies average prices of hogs moved lower in August and early September. Much of the decline was in the lighter weight classes, as is often the case at this season. Later in September the seasonal price decline was halted temporarily. During this period hog prices have averaged \$1.00 to \$3.00 per 100 pounds lower than last year. The average price of barrows and gilts the week ended September 22 was \$20.54 per hundred pounds compared with \$21.60 a year earlier and \$22.56 the first week in August.

Prices of pork at wholesale and retail changed little in August and September. The declining prices of hogs therefore meant that marketing margins became wider after having narrowed at midsummer. These changes in margins are largely seasonal, occurring in most years, but they appear to have been a little more pronounced this year than usual.

A further seasonal price decline is likely. As in most years, the low point will probably be reached in December. Prices may be generally a little, though not greatly, lower than last fall. Factors tending to depress the price below last year are the greater volume of marketings and the larger holdings of pork in cold storage. Supporting influences are higher incomes of consumers and no increase in supplies of other meats per person.

Cattle Slaughter Still Below Last Year;
Seasonal High Expected Soon

Cattle slaughter increased in September but was substantially smaller than in September 1950. Slaughter will soon pass a seasonal peak but will remain seasonally large the rest of the year.

Marketings off grass have been a little larger than the small number last fall. The increase has been in cattle from Texas and Oklahoma, where the dry weather has led to much larger numbers marketed than last year. Most cattle from the two States have gone to pastures, ranges and feedlots elsewhere, rather than directly to slaughter. Cattle marketings from central and northern range areas are a little late this year. Good pastures and the threat of soft corn have encouraged later marketings from those ranges and mid-West pastures.

In August and September fewer fed cattle went to market from the Corn Belt than in the same months last year. The decrease largely reflected the 9 percent fewer cattle on feed July 1. The number of fed cattle sold for slaughter is nevertheless expected to hold up well during the rest of this year and to be fairly close to the total for the last quarter of 1950. It is the prospect of late receipts from most pasture and range areas and of well maintained receipts of fed cattle that point to a large cattle slaughter throughout the fourth quarter. However, the total for the quarter is not expected to equal that of a year earlier.

Total cattle slaughter, including that on farms, from January through September was probably 12.5 to 13 million head. A large fourth-quarter slaughter would give an annual total of no more than 18 million head. This would be less than the 18.6 million slaughtered in 1950 and the smallest in

at least 8 years. The small slaughter for 1951 occurs despite the fact that the numbers of cattle on farms and ranches last January were the largest since the January 1945 peak and only about 2 percent below that mark.

Cattle inventories are probably being expanded around 6 million head this year, and inventories next January will set a new record of about 90 million.

Cattle Slaughter Large on Coasts

Throughout much of 1951 the number of cattle slaughtered in both East and West Coast areas has been considerably above last year. This was true both before and after price controls were placed on beef and cattle. In January, for instance, Federally inspected slaughter in the New York, Newark, and Jersey City area was 25 percent above January 1950 and in the Pacific region was up 35 percent. By May the differences by regions had narrowed, but still greater differences appeared later. In August the New York, Newark, Jersey City area killed 30 percent more than a year before, while slaughter at Sioux City, for example, was 43 percent below August 1950. Slaughter at cities in the South also was large in August.

Data on all commercial slaughter by regions show geographic differences in slaughter this year compared with last, but less than appear in Federally inspected slaughter by market centers.

In an effort to smooth out slaughter by regions to a more nearly normal pattern, the Office of Price Stabilization on September 5 reduced the "freight forgiveness" allowance to eastern packers in the formula for determining maximum paying prices for cattle. Under the original order (CPR 23), slaughterers east of the Indiana-Ohio line and the Mississippi River were in effect allowed to deduct from actual prices paid, before establishing compliance, up to 85 percent of the actual freight paid on cattle purchased at distant points but not more than $1.25 per 100 pounds. Slaughterers located west of that line could deduct up to 50 percent with a maximum of 75 cents per 100 pounds. The deductions were intended to offset tissue-shrink on shipped cattle and to help maintain a normal geographic distribution of slaughter. Under the order of September 5, the deduction for eastern slaughterers is cut to 75 percent of the freight within a limit of 80 cents per 100 pounds, and for other slaughterers is 40 percent but not more than 50 cents per 100 pounds.

Large Shipments of Feeder Cattle

The seasonal increase in shipments of stocker and feeder cattle has been rapid, and numbers moving through 5 leading feeder cattle markets averaged about 6 percent larger this September than last. The extent of this increase may overstate the change in total number of cattle going on feed, since there has been less contracting and thus less direct shipment of feeder cattle to feeding areas this year than last.

A large volume of cattle feeding is nevertheless expected this fall and winter. Feeding would be especially large if the corn crop should be soft this fall. The crop is maturing late in many North Central areas and will be damaged unless the first frost is later than usual.

Cattle Prices Nearly Steady;
No More Than Small
Decline Likely

Prices of cattle have in general been near ceiling-equivalent levels. The only changes have been some widening during the summer of the spread between grades--normal at the season--and some increases in prices in September. The September advances may have resulted from an OPS order temporarily releasing low-volume slaughterers from price compliance on live cattle. (See page 23).

Prices may retain approximately their present positions except possibly for some weakening at times of largest marketings. Prices of cattle and of beef are pressing somewhat against their ceilings, but marketings may occasionally be large enough to cause some reductions.

Prices of feeder and stocker cattle have declined only slightly as demand for these cattle has held strong. Prices are considerably above a year earlier. Returns from feeding cattle bought at present prices will be no more than average, and considerably less than in the past two years, if slaughter cattle prices next winter and spring should be the same as now. Any material lowering of slaughter cattle prices at the selling season would seriously reduce returns from feeding.

Not much change in prices of feeder cattle is likely in weeks ahead so long as prices of the better grades of slaughter steers and heifers remain close to present levels.

Meat Consumption Per Person
Below Last Year in First 3 Quarters,
May Be Larger in Fourth Quarter

Meat consumption per person has been slightly smaller in 1951 to date than in 1950 More pork has been consumed, but less of each of the other kinds of meat.

The reduced slaughter of cattle has been the most important factor holding supplies for consumption per person smaller than in 1950, although substantially larger military requirements have also had a restrictive effect. The size of cattle slaughter in the fourth quarter is the most variable element in prospective consumption in the fourth quarter and for the year as a whole. If slaughter is large, meat consumption per person for that quarter will be greater than a year earlier and the 1951 total will about equal last year's 143.7 pounds.

Little Change Likely
In 1952 Spring Pig Crop

Hog production has increased for 5 consecutive years. The 1951 total pig crop of almost 106 million head now in prospect is second only to the wartime 1943 crop of 122 million head. The 1951 crop is made up of 63.8 million spring pigs, which are now being marketed, and an estimate

of about 42 million fall pigs--pigs farrowed from June 1 to December 1 this year. This estimate for the fall crop is based on farmers' intentions on June 1 to have nearly 6.4 million sows farrow during this season, 4 percent more than farrowed last fall. Since June 1, hog prices have not been particularly favorable but prospects for the new corn crop have generally been good. There is no reason to expect a great departure from the prospects indicated on June 1.

The 1952 spring pig crop may be about the same as this year's spring crop. Already in 1951 there have been signs of hog production leveling off. Farmers did not increase the number of sows kept for farrowing as much this year as in the previous two years. More than a third of the increase in this year's spring pig crop resulted from litters averaging larger than last year. Moreover, the prospective fall pig crop of 42 million pigs is a gain of only 3 percent over last fall, a much smaller rise than the 9 percent increase registered a year earlier.

The prospect for little change in the spring pig crop in 1952 is derived chiefly from the hog-corn price ratio during the breeding season this fall. The ratio this fall promises to be only a little above 12.0. This is slightly less than an average ratio for the season and just under the breaking point between ratios that encourage or discourage production. (See table 1, page 9).

The ratio this fall is at the critical range where other factors are most influential in determining the trend in hog production. Production is already high and it may be hard to take care of many more brood sows. Production of almost all other kinds of livestock and poultry is increasing and is intensifying the competition with hogs for feed and labor. Moreover, it may be too much to expect the average size of litters next spring to equal the record set this past spring, which is an element in the prospects for the size of the crop.

On the other hand, feed supplies in prospect will encourage a high level of hog production. The corn crop for harvest this fall was indicated on September 1 at 3,131 million bushels, about the same as 1950 production. Crops of oats and grain sorghums, although less than last year, are expected to be above average. In addition, carry-overs of these feed grains are large. The supply of all concentrates (including by-product feeds) per animal unit for the feeding year beginning October 1 is estimated to be but a little smaller than the big supply of the past 3 years and well above the 1937-41 average.

The price of corn will probably decline seasonally this fall but will be higher than a year earlier.

It is possible that in case of severe frost damage to this year's corn crop some downward adjustments in hog production would be made. Since safe storage of soft corn is difficult, the overall effect of frost damage would be to encourage fall feeding, with a reduction in stocks for feeding later.

Demand for meat is likely to remain strong through much or all of 1952. The expanding defense programs will be a source of much of the strength in income and in demand. However, in meeting that demand pork may be under competition from moderately larger supplies of beef.

The prospective production of hogs, demand for pork, and supplies of corn point to average returns to the efficient hog producer, which would seem to justify continuing about the present level of hog production, with perhaps a small increase but no great expansion similar to that of the last few years.

Table 1.- Hog-corn price ratio during fall breeding season, United States and North Central Region, arrayed according to United States ratio, and number of sows farrowing following spring, 1924-51

Year	Hog-corn price ratio September-December 1/		Number of sows farrowing following spring	Increase or decrease from preceding spring in sows farrowing	
	United States	North Central States		Number	Percent
			1,000 head	1,000 head	
1938	17.2	18.8	8,692	1,897	27.9
1942	17.2	18.4	12,174	2,490	25.7
1948	17.1	17.5	9,054	1,090	13.7
1926	16.6	17.5	9,754	706	7.8
1941	15.5	16.3	9,684	1,924	24.8
1949	15.4	15.8	9,473	419	4.6
1937	15.3	16.7	6,795	618	10.0
1946	14.8	15.6	8,652	543	6.7
1935	14.7	15.8	6,954	1,487	27.2
1932	14.2	17.4	9,122	312	3.5
1950	13.5	13.7	9,873	400	4.2
1925	13.5	15.3	9,048	714	8.6
1945	12.7	13.5	8,109	-189	-2.3
1943	12.4	13.4	9,246	-2,923	-24.1
1944	12.3	13.4	8,298	-948	-10.3
1951	2/12.0-12.2	---	---	---	---
1939	12.0	13.3	8,247	-445	-5.1
1931	12.0	13.0	8,810	-159	-1.8
1947	11.2	11.2	7,964	-688	-8.0
1927	11.2	11.6	9,301	-453	-4.6
1928	11.2	12.2	8,854	-447	-4.8
1930	11.2	12.3	8,969	691	8.3
1929	10.3	10.9	8,278	-576	-6.5
1940	10.0	10.6	7,760	-487	-5.9
1936	9.4	9.4	6,177	-777	-11.2
1933	8.6	10.2	6,825	-2,297	-25.2
1924	8.2	8.7	8,334	-1,465	-15.0
1934	6.8	7.0	5,467	-1,358	-19.9

1/ Based on prices received by farmers. 2/ Partly forecast.

Price Compliance Eased on Cattle Slaughterers having Low Volume

Slaughterers whose volume of cattle slaughter was much below last year were granted relief from price compliance requirements in an order issued by the Office of Price Stabilization on September 5. (This was a part of the order that reduced freight forgiveness). Slaughterers who kill less than 50 percent of their normal supply of cattle are not required in the August and September accounting periods to adhere to the maximum average paying price for cattle prescribed under present regulations. Slaughterers killing between 50 and 75 percent of normal were granted a tolerance of 1 percent in price compliance.

Beef Ceiling Prices Raised

On September 17 the Office of Price Stabilization revised its regulations on ceiling prices for beef and cattle. Wholesale ceilings on all grades of beef carcasses were raised one cent a pound in order to maintain margins to slaughterers. The ceiling on Utility carcasses was raised an additional three cents and the ceiling-equivalent limit on Utility cattle was also increased.

Since April 30 when dollar and cent ceilings were issued for sales of beef at wholesale (CPR 24) and equivalent ceilings were set up for cattle (CPR 23), the prices of hides and tallow, the principal byproducts from cattle slaughter, have declined. The lower return from byproducts narrowed packers' margins. The OPS explained that in order to carry out its obligation to maintain margins, it was faced with the choice of lowering cattle ceilings or raising beef ceilings. Lower ceilings on cattle did not seem feasible, it was said, in view of the difficulty many packers reported in buying sufficient numbers of cattle in compliance with ceiling limitations. Consequently, margins were restored by increasing wholesale beef carcass ceilings one cent a pound.

At the same time price relationships between various wholesale cuts were modified by increasing some cuts more than one cent and reducing others. In general, the increases were largely confined to hindquarters.

Increases in retail ceilings conforming to those at wholesale were to be made soon, the OPS stated.

The Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951 added a third standard for minimum ceiling prices for farm products to the two named in the 1950 Act. The new standard is 90 percent of the price received by farmers, by grade, on May 19, 1951. For Utility grade cattle the minimum ceiling calculated by the new standard is above the ceiling-equivalent prices on cattle previously in force. (See this Situation for August, page 10.) To meet this new minimum the OPS upped the wholesale ceiling on Utility carcasses an additional three cents, for a total increase of four cents a pound. This change resulted in a higher ceiling equivalent price for Utility cattle.

Ceiling limits on slaughterers' paying prices for cattle are computed from wholesale carcass ceilings by means of specified factors and with certain allowances and deductions. To reflect the lower returns actually received, the byproducts allowance was reduced by 25 to 60 cents per live 100 pounds for various grades. With a higher price for the carcass but a smaller allowance for byproducts, the ceiling equivalents for cattle are changed little. The exception is the Utility grade, the ceiling equivalent for which at Chicago is increased $1.65 per 100 pounds. (table 2).

Table 2.- Approximate live-cattle equivalent at Chicago of ceiling prices on carcass beef at wholesale, before and after September 19, 1951 1/

Period	Ceiling equivalent price per 100 pounds, by grade					
	Prime	Choice	Good	Commercial	Utility	Canner and cutter
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
After Sept. 19	37.05	34.20	31.50	27.30	23.45	19.55
June 4 to Sept.19	37.05	34.20	31.50	27.30	21.80	19.50

1/ Average for steers heifers, cows and stags as derived from announced Chicago wholesale beef ceilings at the following dressing yields for the 6 grades starting with Prime: 62, 59 56, 53, 47 43. The ceiling equivalent on bulls is increased from $27.40 to $27.50.

Other changes were made in CPR 24 to clarify the original language and to facilitate administration.

Dollars-and-Cents Ceilings Set For Pork at Wholesale

The Office of Price Stabilization placed most sales of pork at wholesale under dollars-and-cents ceilings effective October 1. This regulation (CPR 74) follows the same general procedure as is used for beef in that schedules prescribe specific base prices for various wholesale cuts and set up certain additions to them. Included in the additions are zone differentials, allowances for local slaughter, and others.

On the average ceiling prices established by this regulation are 1 to 1 1/2 cents a pound higher than they previously were under the GCPR. OPS states that these wholesale prices will permit packers to pay parity prices for hogs (the effective legal minimum) and still realize fair and equitable margins.

Specific dollars-and-cents ceilings for pork at retail had not been announced as of September 27. Pending the issuance of such an order, retailers are permitted (by GCPR, SR 65) to adjust retail pork prices to preserve their normal marketing margins.

Dollars-and-Cents Ceilings Due on Veal and Lamb

The Office of Price Stabilization has stated that tailored dollars-and-cents ceilings will socn be imposed on veal, and lamb and mutton. As of September 27 they had not been issued.

New ceilings on these meats would be similar to those in force on beef since May. They would replace the present ceilings, which in most cases are each dealer's highest prices charged between last December 19 and January 25. This would also supersede an interim regulation of limited coverage which sets up a uniform mark-up by which wholesalers determine their ceilings on lamb and mutton. This order, issued August 30, provides that wholesalers may add a mark-up of not more than $2.00 per 100 pounds to their weekly cost of lamb and mutton for sale to retailers and restaurants. On sales to other wholesalers the maximum mark-up is 50 cents and on all other sales it is $1.00. In addition there is an allowance of 50 cents per 100 pounds for local delivery.

World Meat Production in 1950 Above Prewar

The total world output of meat during 1950 was greater than prewar, according to recent estimates by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. However, the increases have been largely confined to the Western Hemisphere and Oceania (Australia and New Zealand), while production in Europe is still less than before the war.

In general, changes in consumption have followed those in production. In many countries of the Western Hemisphere, where demand has been strong and supplies have increased, per capita consumption of meat has moved substantially above prewar averages. Per capita meat consumption in Argentina and Uruguay for 1950 is estimated at around 232 and 230 pounds, respectively, the highest in the world. Consumption in Europe during 1950, although above 1949, was not as large as before World War II, since both net imports and total meat production continued below prewar. In New Zealand and Australia, consumption declined slightly in 1950 but still averaged above 200 pounds per person.

Table 3.- Per capita consumption of meats, by countries, 1950 1/

Country	Per capita consumption	Country	Per capita consumption	Country	Per capita consumption
	Pounds		Pounds		Pounds
Canada	129	Greece	21	Brazil	58
Mexico	38	Ireland	81	Chile	67
United States	144	Italy	33	Paraguay 2/	125
Cuba	81	Netherlands	76	Uruguay	230
Austria	77	Norway	73	Union of South Africa	76
Belgium	84	Portugal	40	Australia	214
Denmark	124	Sweden	99	New Zealand 3/	219
Finland	62	Switzerland	89		
France	102	United Kingdom	110		
Germany-Western	81	Argentina	232		

1/ Carcass meat. Excludes edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat.
2/ Beef and veal only. 3/ Year ending September 30.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS OF CATTLE AND CALVES ON FARMS

Number of cattle and calves on farms January 1 vary more widely over periods of years in the Western range areas than in other parts of the country. Numbers have fluctuated considerably also in the feeding area of the central Corn Belt. Variations are least in the South and East.

These observations are borne out by the charts and tables which follow which present data on cattle numbers by 13 regions from 1867 to date, together with measures of variation in those numbers.

United States Numbers Fluctuate

Much attention has been devoted to the broad swings in numbers of cattle and calves on farms in the United States as a whole. (See cover chart.) United States numbers have gone through five cycles since 1880. Now numbers are on an upswing. In 1951 they are rising from a near-record of 84 million head at the beginning of the year to a new record of around 90 million at the end. The increase is being made possible by a reduction to an 8-year low in the number of cattle slaughtered.

Charts Show Much of Story

The comparative smoothness or roughness of trends in numbers can be seen from the charts on pages 14 and 15. In the North Atlantic States numbers trended smoothly downward until the mid-20's and smoothly upward thereafter. In the Lake States of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota the uptrend has continued for many years, with rather moderate variations. But in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, fluctuations in numbers can be said to be violent. The same is true for most of the States in the Great Plains and Mountain areas. In the Dakotas, in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma, and in Texas, numbers have sometimes changed by several million head within a few years. In the Mountain West, the size and sharpness of swings in cattle inventories is not so clearly evident because the total annual inventories are smaller. But statistical measures of relative variation confirm the sizable fluctuations there.

In fact, New Mexico and Arizona lead all 13 regions in the size of variations in numbers relative to their trends from 1880 to 1951, according to the statistical coefficient of variation. The coefficient for the two States is 19 percent. (Table 5). Next in a ranking according to relative deviation from trend are North and South Dakota, followed closely by Montana, Wyoming and Colorado, and then by Texas.

At the other end of the regional comparisons, the smoothness of changes in numbers in the North Atlantic States is reflected in a coefficient of only 3.3 percent. The South Atlantic and Southern Central States have low coefficient values, as do Ohio-Indiana and the West Coast.

The coefficient of variation is most easily interpreted as a percentage range on either side of the mean or trend value which will include about two-thirds of all observations. For example, the coefficient of 11 percent for Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma means that in about two-thirds of the years the actual numbers will fall within 89 and 111 percent of the trend values for the respective years. Or, stated differently, the chances are 2 out of 3 that the number for any given year is within 89 and 111 percent of that year's trend value.

Comparatively smooth changes in cattle numbers on both coasts are largely accounted for by the predominance of dairy herds there. Numbers of milk cows and of young dairy stock have been more nearly constant from year to year and have increased more regularly over time than have numbers of cattle kept for beef.

Other reasons, some not entirely clear, may be involved in the moderate variations in cattle numbers in the South. As a humid pasture region, it is less sensitive to changes in rainfall and grazing conditions than is the West, a factor that may influence changes in numbers.

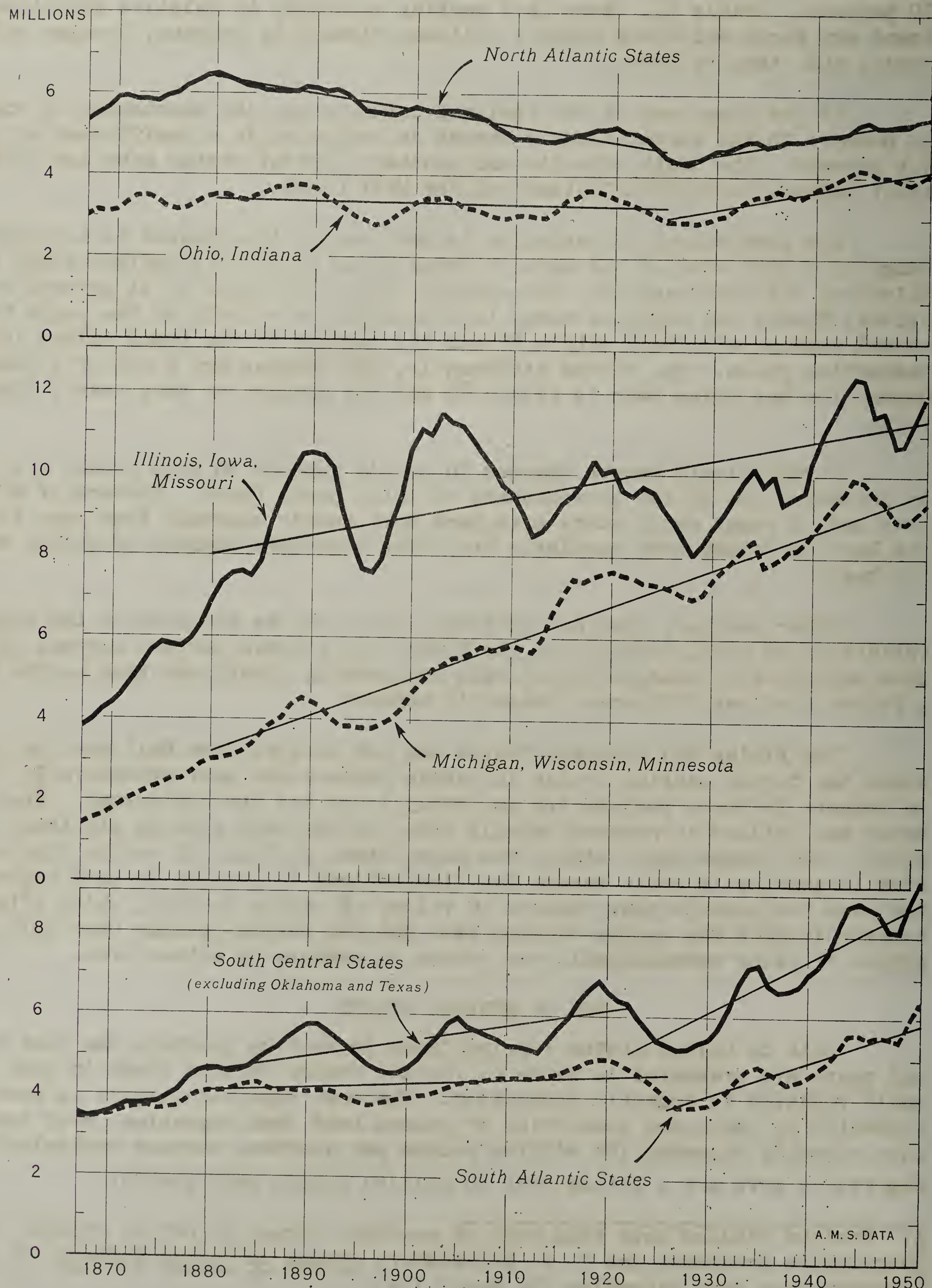
The Plains and Mountain States and the Central Corn Belt are the regions where the forces causing cycles in cattle numbers are most operative.1/ Swings in numbers in those regions are uniformly large and are concurrent. That is, peaks and valleys in numbers usually occur at the same time in all these regions. This means that, with a few exceptions, shifting of cattle from one region to another is not a reason for fluctuations in numbers in each region. Not even the year-to-year changes in volume of cattle feeding, which affects numbers in both the cattle-raising West and the cattle-feeding Corn Belt, appear to alter substantially the swings in numbers in either area.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Data on United States foreign trade in meat by quarters the last two fiscal years are presented in table 6. United States foreign trade in meat is small relative to domestic production. The most important import is beef. Augmented by increased quantities of canned beef from Argentina, beef imports have recently exceeded 100 million pounds per quarter, carcass equivalent weight. Imports of pork are a little over 10 million pounds each quarter.

1/ Various studies have been made of economic forces in cattle cycles. For a descriptive treatment see C. A. Burmeister, Cycles in Cattle Numbers, in the Livestock and Meat Situation for March 1949.

ALL CATTLE: NUMBER ON FARMS JANUARY 1, EASTERN REGION, 1867-1951

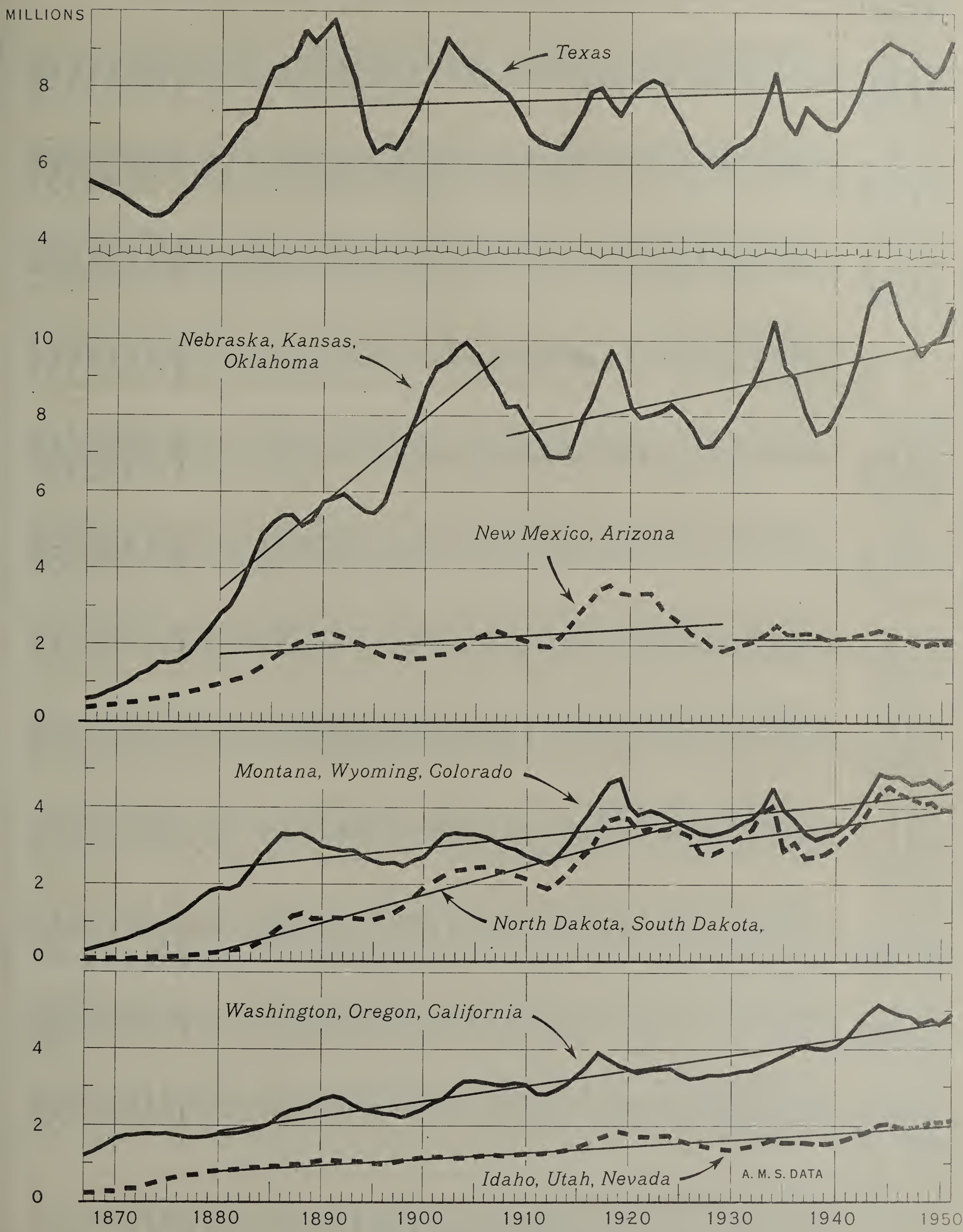


DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 34325 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

ALL CATTLE: NUMBER ON FARMS JANUARY 1, WESTERN REGION, 1867-1951



DATA FOR 1951 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 34326 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Table 4.- All cattle: Number on farms January 1, by regions 1867-1951

Year	North Atlantic States	Ohio Indiana	Illinois Iowa Missouri	Michigan Wisconsin Minnesota	South Atlantic States	South Central States 1/	N. Dakota S. Dakota	Nebraska Kansas Oklahoma	Texas	Montana Wyoming Colorado	New Mexico Arizona	Idaho Utah Nevada	Washington Oregon California
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1867	5,363	3,012	3,814	1,391	3,423	3,525	21	574	5,500	250	343	211	1,209
1868	5,517	3,138	3,961	1,506	3,394	3,436	25	623	5,400	311	370	223	1,334
1869	5,667	3,105	4,201	1,613	3,436	3,481	31	733	5,300	381	391	247	1,474
1870	5,875	3,165	4,372	1,733	3,476	3,561	42	878	5,200	459	407	275	1,639
1871	5,925	3,324	4,581	1,914	3,554	3,658	49	1,064	5,000	547	435	323	1,733
1872	5,849	3,492	4,932	2,058	3,642	3,767	58	1,228	4,800	652	478	373	1,749
1873	5,854	3,533	5,267	2,169	3,687	3,768	67	1,370	4,600	780	540	417	1,778
1874	5,829	3,462	5,665	2,300	3,731	3,802	76	1,555	4,620	916	561	505	1,779
1875	5,950	3,246	5,860	2,397	3,651	3,835	87	1,539	4,800	1,015	626	570	1,785
1876	6,015	3,167	5,816	2,507	3,666	3,966	101	1,603	5,100	1,149	679	625	1,746
1877	6,187	3,222	5,760	2,521	3,734	4,129	121	1,817	5,400	1,337	736	665	1,704
1878	6,324	3,357	5,970	2,691	3,893	4,403	146	2,102	5,750	1,557	811	708	1,684
1879	6,458	3,482	6,311	2,893	4,031	4,566	171	2,395	6,000	1,783	877	762	1,691
1880	6,500	3,541	6,891	3,023	4,085	4,649	206	2,799	6,200	1,887	975	810	1,781
1881	6,405	3,549	7,356	3,043	4,091	4,651	238	3,019	6,600	1,885	1,042	830	1,792
1882	6,290	3,455	7,538	3,108	4,130	4,575	282	3,580	7,000	1,996	1,126	850	1,808
1883	6,180	3,376	7,618	3,218	4,197	4,607	341	4,229	7,234	2,339	1,281	880	1,887
1884	6,136	3,506	7,499	3,403	4,260	4,708	485	4,910	7,873	2,735	1,437	898	1,954
1885	6,074	3,596	7,903	3,708	4,288	4,868	652	5,257	8,522	2,994	1,639	917	2,045
1886	6,061	3,702	8,788	3,899	4,166	5,037	900	5,399	8,587	3,320	1,815	936	2,258
1887	6,036	3,730	9,462	4,065	4,121	5,176	1,150	5,436	8,826	3,290	1,949	965	2,396
1888	6,056	3,794	10,012	4,405	4,158	5,400	1,250	5,169	9,515	3,305	2,093	985	2,457
1889	6,167	3,765	10,465	4,535	4,117	5,586	1,090	5,292	9,212	3,145	2,228	1,040	2,536
1890	6,142	3,707	10,500	4,437	4,089	5,745	1,096	5,788	9,474	2,977	2,320	1,052	2,687
1891	6,060	3,506	10,440	4,308	4,117	5,749	1,150	5,838	9,805	2,919	2,250	1,065	2,761
1892	6,099	3,363	10,140	4,019	4,130	5,573	1,139	5,974	8,841	2,878	2,190	1,060	2,720
1893	6,000	3,181	9,073	3,846	4,045	5,369	1,119	5,766	8,151	2,883	2,085	1,060	2,541
1894	5,799	3,012	8,335	3,853	3,927	5,173	1,092	5,538	6,779	2,740	1,991	1,053	2,421
1895	6,682	2,934	7,662	3,829	3,841	4,969	1,076	5,457	6,249	2,605	1,816	1,005	2,385
1896	5,548	2,805	6,566	3,822	3,766	4,765	1,152	5,762	6,449	2,554	1,697	982	2,337
1897	5,521	2,843	7,934	3,889	3,804	4,623	1,238	6,492	6,462	2,592	1,712	1,021	2,316
1898	5,476	3,023	8,797	4,044	3,847	4,560	1,413	7,305	6,928	2,496	1,671	1,085	2,223
1899	5,594	3,203	9,511	4,285	3,934	4,571	1,648	7,944	7,498	2,633	1,645	1,120	2,341
1900	5,679	3,350	10,575	4,673	3,942	4,690	1,908	8,757	8,113	2,744	1,693	1,162	2,453
1901	5,620	3,453	11,082	4,952	4,006	4,903	2,039	9,301	8,672	3,030	1,733	1,173	2,612
1902	5,566	3,439	10,955	5,226	4,044	5,200	2,235	9,444	9,334	3,305	1,787	1,166	2,717
1903	5,594	3,483	11,469	5,336	4,131	5,475	2,386	9,779	8,920	3,396	1,876	1,154	3,005
1904	5,594	3,368	11,261	5,513	4,211	5,795	2,409	9,991	8,614	3,325	2,025	1,171	3,165
1905	5,561	3,233	11,155	5,542	4,306	5,932	2,416	9,666	8,405	3,357	2,150	1,202	3,186
1906	5,502	3,183	10,830	5,639	4,357	5,723	2,465	9,157	8,250	3,269	2,275	1,223	3,136
1907	5,389	3,113	10,469	5,787	4,370	5,609	2,358	8,717	8,095	3,125	2,350	1,260	3,112
1908	5,186	3,056	10,127	5,734	4,417	5,496	2,315	8,230	7,843	3,035	2,259	1,225	3,066
1909	5,063	2,971	9,738	5,771	4,468	5,400	2,222	8,248	7,414	2,935	2,150	1,259	3,135

-Continued-

1910	4,893	3,040	9,504	5,856	4,473	5,255	2,120	7,769	6,900	2,767	2,058	1,286	3,072
1911	4,910	3,065	9,042	5,740	4,469	5,233	1,970	7,423	6,600	2,664	1,981	1,281	2,847
1912	4,886	3,019	8,512	5,685	4,450	5,178	1,885	6,934	6,500	2,523	1,965	1,303	2,835
1913	4,842	2,993	8,620	6,028	4,463	5,110	2,058	6,897	6,400	2,740	2,170	1,323	2,948
1914	4,845	3,155	8,915	6,590	4,517	5,398	2,269	6,941	6,800	3,088	2,445	1,384	3,114
1915	4,912	3,430	9,301	7,024	4,570	5,681	2,619	7,861	7,300	3,541	2,810	1,438	3,362
1916	5,028	3,505	9,496	7,421	4,673	5,947	2,891	8,397	7,900	3,878	3,150	1,559	3,593
1917	5,063	3,673	9,818	7,386	4,742	6,339	3,419	9,183	8,000	4,302	3,455	1,691	3,908
1918	5,139	3,675	10,327	7,517	4,872	6,650	3,671	9,743	7,600	4,706	3,605	1,770	3,765
1919	5,139	3,620	10,027	7,574	4,939	6,861	3,746	9,242	7,300	4,802	3,395	1,838	3,611
1920	5,190	3,473	10,128	7,658	4,943	6,572	3,723	8,203	7,800	4,077	3,320	1,801	3,512
1921	5,079	3,411	9,622	7,567	4,857	6,385	3,411	7,965	8,100	3,811	3,375	1,720	3,411
1922	5,054	3,286	9,484	7,526	4,744	6,310	3,523	8,067	8,250	3,958	3,392	1,720	3,481
1923	4,923	3,180	9,710	7,379	4,615	5,952	3,440	8,182	8,100	3,855	2,954	1,755	3,501
1924	4,709	3,068	9,608	7,349	4,432	5,684	3,517	8,336	7,500	3,725	2,761	1,765	3,542
1925	4,472	2,935	9,159	7,294	4,241	5,485	3,415	8,077	7,100	3,600	2,590	1,637	3,368
1926	4,349	2,902	8,837	7,208	4,010	5,280	3,264	7,714	6,450	3,493	2,257	1,554	3,258
1927	4,301	2,899	8,455	7,060	3,794	5,175	2,851	7,152	6,200	3,329	2,197	1,490	3,275
1928	4,383	2,875	8,061	6,983	3,772	5,219	2,800	7,226	5,950	3,292	1,991	1,438	3,332
1929	4,506	2,927	8,302	7,120	3,788	5,351	2,935	7,690	6,255	3,389	1,855	1,408	3,351
1930	4,647	3,013	8,682	7,477	3,855	5,458	3,121	8,065	6,500	3,470	1,970	1,387	3,358
1931	4,655	3,066	8,980	7,720	3,949	5,719	3,288	8,512	6,604	3,641	2,000	1,443	3,453
1932	4,759	3,246	9,391	7,952	4,207	6,210	3,436	8,940	6,890	3,716	2,103	1,485	3,466
1933	4,869	3,437	9,825	8,224	4,508	6,782	3,898	9,660	7,605	4,020	2,296	1,550	3,606
1934	4,879	3,543	10,175	8,420	4,732	7,181	4,061	10,590	8,410	4,527	2,507	1,642	3,702
1935	4,750	3,555	9,731	7,813	4,799	7,283	2,851	9,251	7,222	3,978	2,258	1,537	3,818
1936	4,748	3,595	9,892	7,905	4,628	6,781	3,075	8,993	6,861	3,689	2,217	1,519	3,944
1937	4,810	3,507	9,305	8,047	4,448	6,575	2,650	8,030	7,547	3,265	2,271	1,553	4,090
1938	4,865	3,488	9,461	8,175	4,375	6,663	2,653	7,445	7,245	3,140	2,208	1,508	4,023
1939	4,940	3,594	9,619	8,322	4,468	6,846	2,708	7,646	7,028	3,234	2,118	1,508	3,998
1940	4,992	3,713	10,329	8,605	4,573	7,093	2,945	8,044	6,958	3,359	2,127	1,563	4,008
1941	5,029	3,805	11,064	8,998	4,739	7,245	3,223	8,707	7,306	3,543	2,154	1,649	4,293
1942	5,027	3,919	11,482	9,321	4,911	7,607	3,575	9,641	7,964	3,911	2,268	1,745	4,654
1943	5,099	4,054	11,999	9,576	5,225	8,231	3,953	10,947	8,681	4,337	2,283	1,866	4,953
1944	5,280	4,194	12,370	9,957	5,598	8,758	4,363	11,413	9,028	4,840	2,379	2,002	5,152
1945	5,366	4,152	12,330	9,845	5,603	8,831	4,525	11,557	9,209	4,811	2,265	2,059	5,020
1946	5,239	4,008	11,478	9,554	5,502	8,733	4,313	10,616	9,025	4,829	2,217	1,988	4,932
1947	5,237	4,004	11,543	9,366	5,575	8,618	4,213	10,183	8,935	4,613	2,100	1,968	4,852
1948	5,228	3,911	10,720	8,888	5,527	8,177	4,096	9,628	8,578	4,700	2,019	2,004	4,650
1949	5,295	3,871	10,737	8,868	5,468	8,099	4,114	9,949	8,406	4,713	2,027	2,029	4,722
1950	5,386	3,909	11,226	8,994	5,848	8,722	3,981	10,177	8,574	4,513	2,015	2,040	4,667
1951	5,419	4,083	11,881	9,231	6,318	9,389	3,950	10,901	9,260	4,674	2,072	2,126	4,875
1952													
1953													
1954													
1955													

1/ Excludes Oklahoma and Texas.

Exports and shipments of pork in the last fiscal year totaled 116 million pounds, or about 30 million pounds a quarter. Exports of other meats are very small.

Imports of beef into the United States will probably decline in the next year. Less canned beef from Argentina can be expected, because that country has contracted to supply large quantities of beef to Great Britian.

Table 5.- Average number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, standard deviation of numbers from trends, and coefficient of variation of numbers from trends, by regions, 1880-1951

Region	Average (mean) number on farms January 1	Standard deviation about trend in numbers 1/	Coefficient of variation about trend in numbers (standard deviation ÷ mean) 2/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
North Atlantic	5,316	178	3.3
Ohio, Indiana	3,417	229	6.7
Illinois, Iowa, Missouri	9,685	1,153	11.9
Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota	6,419	459	7.2
South Atlantic States	4,466	228	5.1
South Central States 3/	6,037	455	7.5
North Dakota, South Dakota	2,500	377	15.1
Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma	7,863	864	11.0
Texas	7,732	1,008	13.0
Montana, Wyoming, Colorado	3,427	472	13.8
New Mexico, Arizona	2,179	417	19.1
Idaho, Utah, Nevada	1,402	140	10.0
Washington, Oregon, California	3,285	292	8.9

1/ The standard deviation is a measure of the variation of actual numbers from trend. About 2/3 of all observations will fall within a zone limited by one standard deviation above and below trend. See accompanying charts for trend lines.
2/ This converts the standard deviation to relative terms--as a percent of the mean.
3/ Excluding Oklahoma and Texas.

able 6.-United States foreign trade in meat, by quarter years, fiscal years 1950 and 1951

Item	Carcass weight equivalent									
	Exports and shipments to Territories 1/									
	1949-50					1950-51				
	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	Year	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	Year
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
eef										
Commercial exports	6.6	5.4	3.4	4.1	19.5	5.3	3.0	2.5	2.4	13.2
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.5	6.4	1.4	0.9	1.3	0.8	4.4
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8.4	6.7	5.2	5.6	25.9	6.7	3.9	3.8	3.2	17.6
eal										
Commercial exports	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.5	2.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.3
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	3/	0.1	0.1	0.3
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.6	2.5	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.6
amb and mutton										
Commercial exports	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.8	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.2
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	3/	3/	0.1	0.1	0.2	3/	3/	0.1	3/	0.1
USDA exports and shipments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.3	2.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.3
ork excluding lard										
Commercial exports	20.6	12.7	16.2	15.5	65.0	12.8	21.6	25.2	17.6	77.2
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	10.9	9.0	13.0	11.0	43.9	10.6	9.3	11.7	7.6	39.2
USDA exports and shipments	0	1.8	0	0	1.8	0	0	0	0	0
Total	31.5	23.5	29.2	26.5	110.7	23.4	30.9	36.9	25.2	116.4
ll meat										
Commercial exports	28.5	19.4	20.2	20.3	88.4	19.0	25.1	28.2	20.6	92.9
Commercial shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands 2/	12.8	10.4	15.0	12.7	50.9	12.1	10.2	13.2	8.5	44.0
USDA exports and shipments	0	1.8	0	0	1.8	0	0	0	0	0
Total	41.3	31.6	35.2	33.0	141.1	31.1	35.3	41.4	29.1	136.9
	Imports									
eef	78.2	58.7	54.9	68.6	260.4	99.8	98.9	101.8	133.4	433.9
eal	2.2	3.3	0.7	4.2	10.4	3.6	1.3	0.5	5.2	10.6
amb and mutton	1.0	2.4	3/	3/	3.4	0.5	2.9	1.0	1.5	5.9
ork excluding lard	0.6	1.7	5.2	7.6	15.1	10.0	10.2	11.3	12.9	44.4
All meat	82.0	66.1	60.8	80.4	289.3	113.9	113.3	114.6	153.0	494.8

1/Does not include shipments for military civilian feeding. Shipments to Territories as reported.(See footnote2.) 2/Only Territories for which shipment data are available. Data for Alaska and Hawaii have not been reported since March 1948. 3/Less than 50,000 pounds.

Digest of O.P.S. Regulation Affecting Meat and Meat Animals

The following is a list of regulations supplementing those appearing in earlier issues of the Livestock and Meat Situation. Reference should be made to the original order in determining the application of amendments listed.

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 29 Amendment 2 Issued September 7, 1951 Effective September 12, 1951.	Extends the application of GCPR, SR 29 to United States territories and possessions.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 54 Issued August 30, 1951 Effective September 5, 1951	Permits wholesalers to add a markup of not more than $2 a hundred pounds to their weekly cost of lamb and mutton for resale. Prohibits sale of cuts which were not sold during the base period, and makes other provisions.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 60 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 19, 1951	Permits adjustments in ceiling prices of gut-string made from green sheep intestines and sold to manufacturers of surgical sutures in line with changes in costs (See CPR 22, SR 16)
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 61 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 22, 1951	Establishes tailored ceilings for cured, corned cooked, smoked, dried or barbequed beef products, superceding prices set up under the GCPR and CPR 24. Does not apply to canned meat, sausage, ground beef or specialty steak products.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 65 Issued September 25, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Establishes ceiling prices for retail sales of pork, based on weekly costs, pending the issuance of dollars-and-cents retail ceilings. Does not apply to sausage, sterile canned meat, fat back and other specified pork products
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Amendment 3 Issued September 7, 1951 Effective September 12, 1951	Authorizes territorial retailers to use percentage markups (instead of dollars and cents markups) in determining ceiling prices for commodities not produced locally. Also makes other changes.

Continued-

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Supplementary Regulation 1 Issued September 7, 1951 Effective September 12, 1951	Permits ceiling prices established under CPR 9 to be adjusted, in certain situations to the minimum prices established under territorial Fair Trade Acts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Supplementary Regulation 2 Issued September 7, 1951 Effective September 12, 1951	Establishes ceiling prices on commodities which manufacturers or wholesalers in the continental United States sell in territories through branch offices, agents or consignees.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Supplementary Regulation 3 Issued September 7, 1951 Effective September 12 1951	Provides a method for establishing uniform dollar and cent ceiling prices for branded merchandise in the territories.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Amendment 3, corrections Issued September 20, 1951 Effective September 20, 1951	Corrects certain clerical errors in Amendment 3 to CPR 9.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 5 Issued August 22, 1951 Effective August 27, 1951	Extends the date for filing applications for "specialty" wholesalers to September 30, 1951, and sets up adjustments for "wagon" wholesalers. Also clarifies the definition of canned meat.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 6 Issued August 27, 1951 Effective September 1, 1951	Authorizes wholesalers of owned or exclusively controlled brands of grocery items to add certain advertising and sales promotion expenses (up to 5 percent of net cost) to net cost before applying their appropriate markups. (Applies to a specialized type of operation and is of limited application.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 7 Issued August 30, 1951 Effective September 4, 1951	Sets up a method for certain institutional wholesalers to apply for markups in addition to the regular markup allowed under CPR 14.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 8 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 22, 1951	Allows wholesalers to operate part of their business as service fee wholesalers. Provides a simpler method for determining ceiling prices for sales to retailers.

Continued-

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 6 Issued August 22, 1951 Effective August 27, 1951	Provides a basis for pricing special promotion joint sales, extends the date for filing adjustment applications by "specialty" retailers until September 30, 1951, and makes other changes for group 3 and 4 stores
Ceiling Price Regulation 15 Amendment 7 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 22, 1951	Changes CPR 15 regarding retailers purchasing from service fee wholesalers to conform with changes made by Amendment 8 to CPR 14.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amendment 6 Issued August 22, 1951 Effective August 27, 1951	Makes the same provisions as CPR 15, Amendment 6 for group 1 and 2 stores. Also permits group 1 stores to reclassify to group 2 under specified conditions.
Ceiling Price Regulation 16 Amendment 7 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 22 1951	Changes CPR 16 in line with Amendment 8 CPR 1
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 24 Issued September 6, 1951 Effective September 11, 1951	Amends sections of CPR 22 on determining the net cost of a manufacturing article which was produced in one plant of a company and transferred to another plant of the same company.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 26 Issued September 18, 1951 Effective September 22, 1951	Extends to manufacturers the option of proposing a method for calculating increased cost of materials.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 15 Amendment 1 Issued September 14, 1951 Effective September 14, 1951	Changes the mandatory filing data of CPR 22, SR 15 from September 15, to November 1
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 16 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 19, 1951	Permits adjustments in ceiling prices of gut-string made from green sheep intestines and sold to manufacturers of surgical sutures. (See GCPR, SR 60.)

Continued-

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 23 Amemdment 2 Issued September 5, 1951 Some provisions effective September 5, others September 15	Exempts from compliance to CPR 23 until October 1, 1951 slaughterer who have been unable to get at least 50 percent of their normal supply of cattle, and grants a tolerance of 1 percent to those able to get between 50 and 75 percent of normal supply. Also reduces "freight forgiveness" allowed to slaughterers, and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 23 Amendment 3 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 19, 1951	Sets up new byproduct factor additions which the slaughterer uses in computing his maximum calculated prices for live cattle.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 5 Issued August 24, 1951 Effective August 24, 1951	Modifies the effective date of CPR 24, Amendment 4, which prohibits importation of beef at prices higher than domestic ceilings. Permits contracts entered into before August 1 to be carried out if deliveries were made by August 31.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 6 Issued September 17, 1951 Effective September 19, 1951	Makes a number of changes and additions to CPR 24, including a revision of ceiling price schedules for beef carcasses and cuts at wholesale.
Ceiling Price Regulation 61 Amendment 1 Issued August 28, 1951 Effective August 28, 1951	Simplifies the determination of export ceiling prices by allowing producer-exporters to use alternative pricing methods.
Ceiling Price Regulation 69 Issued September 6, 1951 Effective September 11, 1951	Sets up a tailored regulation for determining ceiling prices on wholesale groceries sold in Hawaii. Supercedes GCPR and CPR 9.
Ceiling Price Regulation 73 Issued September 12, 1951 Effective September 14, 1951	Establishes dollar and cent ceiling prices for certain food articles at various levels of distribution in the Virgin Islands. Covers sales of live cattle (young and old), sheep and goats and corresponding meat or meat cuts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Issued September 25, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Establishes dollars-and-cents ceilings for most sales of pork at wholesale by zone and by cuts.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Aug.-Av. 1950	Jan.-Aug.-Av. 1951	1950 August	1951 July	1951 August	1951 Sept.
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	32.54	38.69	31.37	37.37	37.92	
Choice	do.	28.76	35.98	29.97	35.47	35.85	
Good	do.	26.20	33.37	28.02	33.05	33.10	
Commercial	do.		30.94		30.00	30.08	
Utility	do.	22.99	28.39	23.51	27.23	27.23	
All grades	do.	28.04	35.51	30.09	35.75	36.39	
Omaha, all grades	do.	26.71	34.13	29.10	34.15	34.65	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	26.91	34.27	29.16	34.58	35.01	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	21.02	27.92	22.74	28.50	28.65	
Utility	do.	18.39	24.91	20.11	24.21	24.37	
Canner and Cutter	do.	15.92	21.44	17.72	21.04	21.07	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.31	37.62	31.84	37.45	36.68	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	25.90	33.55	26.90	31.61	32.59	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	22.34	29.12	24.20	29.00	29.10	
Veal calves	do.	25.20	32.90	27.40	32.50	32.60	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	18.78	21.40	22.76	22.21	21.50	
180-200 pounds	do.	19.34	22.17	23.90	23.03	22.38	
200-220 pounds	do.	19.46	22.31	24.32	23.17	22.72	
220-240 pounds	do.	19.32	22.20	24.33	22.90	22.70	
240-270 pounds	do.	18.95	21.90	24.08	22.28	22.38	
270-300 pounds	do.	18.42	21.39	23.35	21.36	21.67	
All weights	do.	18.90	21.85	23.86	22.50	22.23	
Seven markets 3/	do.	18.88	21.54	23.89	22.01	22.04	
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.02	18.98	20.32	18.85	19.14	
Price received by farmers	do.	17.81	20.91	21.70	20.80	21.20	
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	13.2	12.4	15.6	12.8	12.4	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.8	13.0	15.1	12.8	12.8	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.65	19.09	11.51	14.88	14.63	
Price received by farmers	do.	10.64	16.74	11.10	15.50	15.00	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	26.38	35.92	27.21	31.90	31.59	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	5/25.69	6/32.48	27.42	---	31.34	
Price received by farmers	do.	24.00	32.11	25.00	30.20	29.80	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers							
(1910-14=100)		330	418	369	414	416	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	45.61	56.13	48.10	56.50	56.50	
Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.17	56.62	51.60	58.00	58.00	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.25	23.73	24.59	23.96	24.38	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	27.80	32.58	33.76	32.89	33.47	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	23.35	26.41	27.80	26.09	26.96	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.74	37.03	38.98	36.58	37.80	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	71.6	84.6	77.8	84.8	---	
Lamb	do.	68.7	76.2	70.7	77.8	---	
Pork, including lard	do.	39.4	45.2	46.0	45.4	---	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		231	274	258	275	278	
Retail (1935-39=100) 7/		236	272	260	274	277	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Average of prices for January, February-March, and August.
6/ Average of January and August prices.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-August 1950	January-August 1951	1950 August	1951 July	1951 August	1951 September
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		132	137	134	128	145	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	1,195	1,286	239	173	293	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,257	1,561	355	168	492	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	8,477	7.663	1,184	920	1,064	
Calves	do.	3,896	3,311	484	408	422	
Sheep and lambs	do.	7,709	6,413	1,076	863	889	
Hogs	do.	34,804	38,563	3,626	3,826	4,236	
Percentage sows	Percent	19	14	31	33	29	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	985	996	974	978	962	
Calves	do.	199	197	241	233	250	
Sheep and lambs	do.	97	99	93	93	95	
Hogs	do.	249	197	259	276	250	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	543	553	536	550	527	
Veal, per head	do.	112	112	134	133	140	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	46	47	44	44	45	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	139	144	151	145	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	55	55	56	
Lard, per head	do.	37	37	38	41	38	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	14	15	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	4,575	4,214	632	503	558	
Veal	do.	431	368	65	54	59	
Lamb and mutton	do.	355	300	47	38	39	
Pork 2/	do.	4,830	5,352	519	577	615	
Lard	do.	1,273	1,423	136	157	159	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	11,657	10,562	1,615	1,287	1,508	
Calves	do.	6,679	5,560	838	665	726	
Sheep and lambs	do.	8,460	6,998	1,194	948	1,001	
Hogs	do.	39,371	46,504	4,442	4,590	5,224	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	6,035	5,597	829	676	768	
Veal	do.	745	620	108	86	98	
Lamb and mutton	do.	387	324	52	42	44	
Pork 2/	do.	5,768	6,366	625	676	741	
Lard	do.	1,460	1,617	156	177	182	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	61	90	87	98
Veal	do.	---	---	6	6	7	8
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	6	5	6	7
Pork	do.	---	---	394	572	496	394
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	543	778	701	604

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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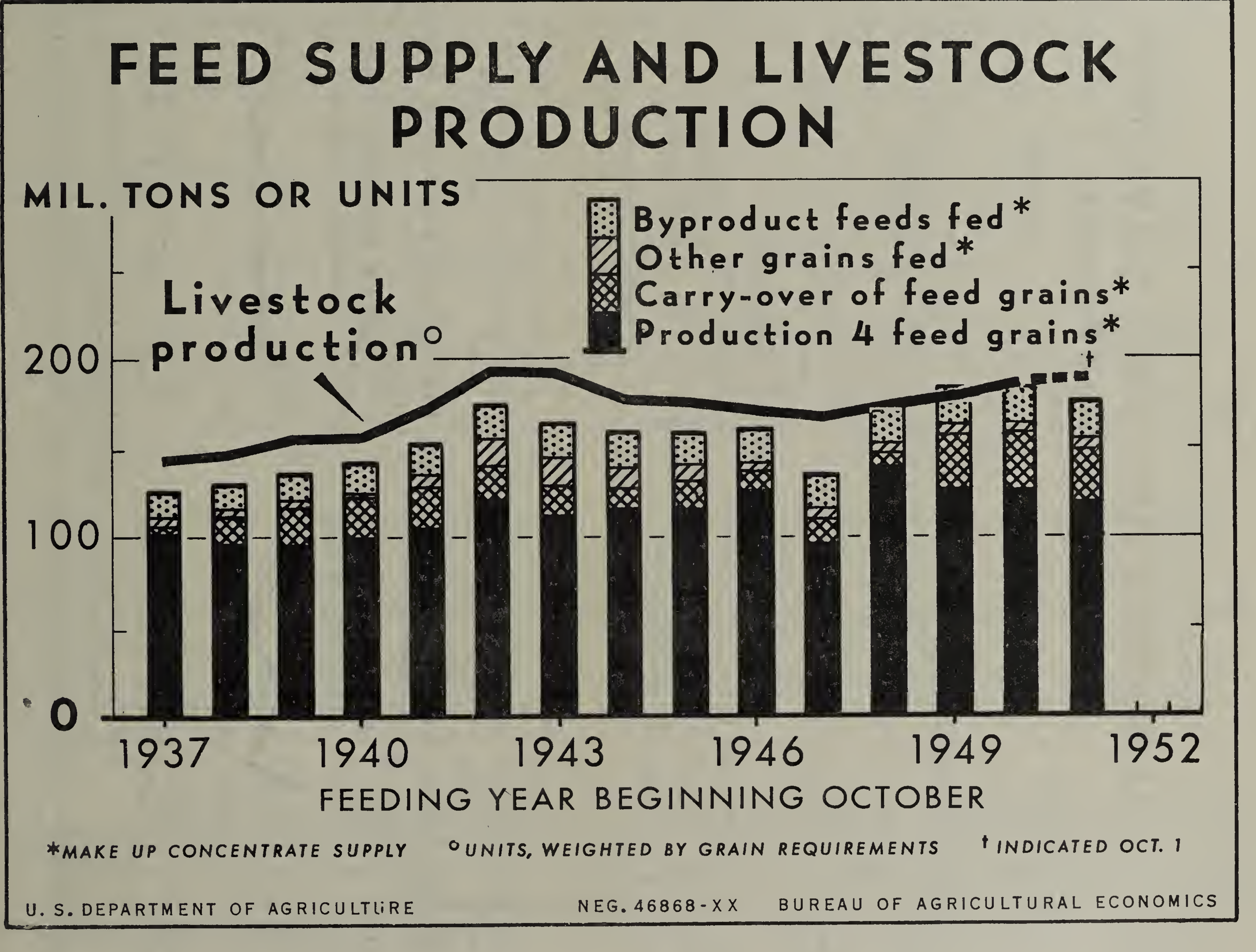
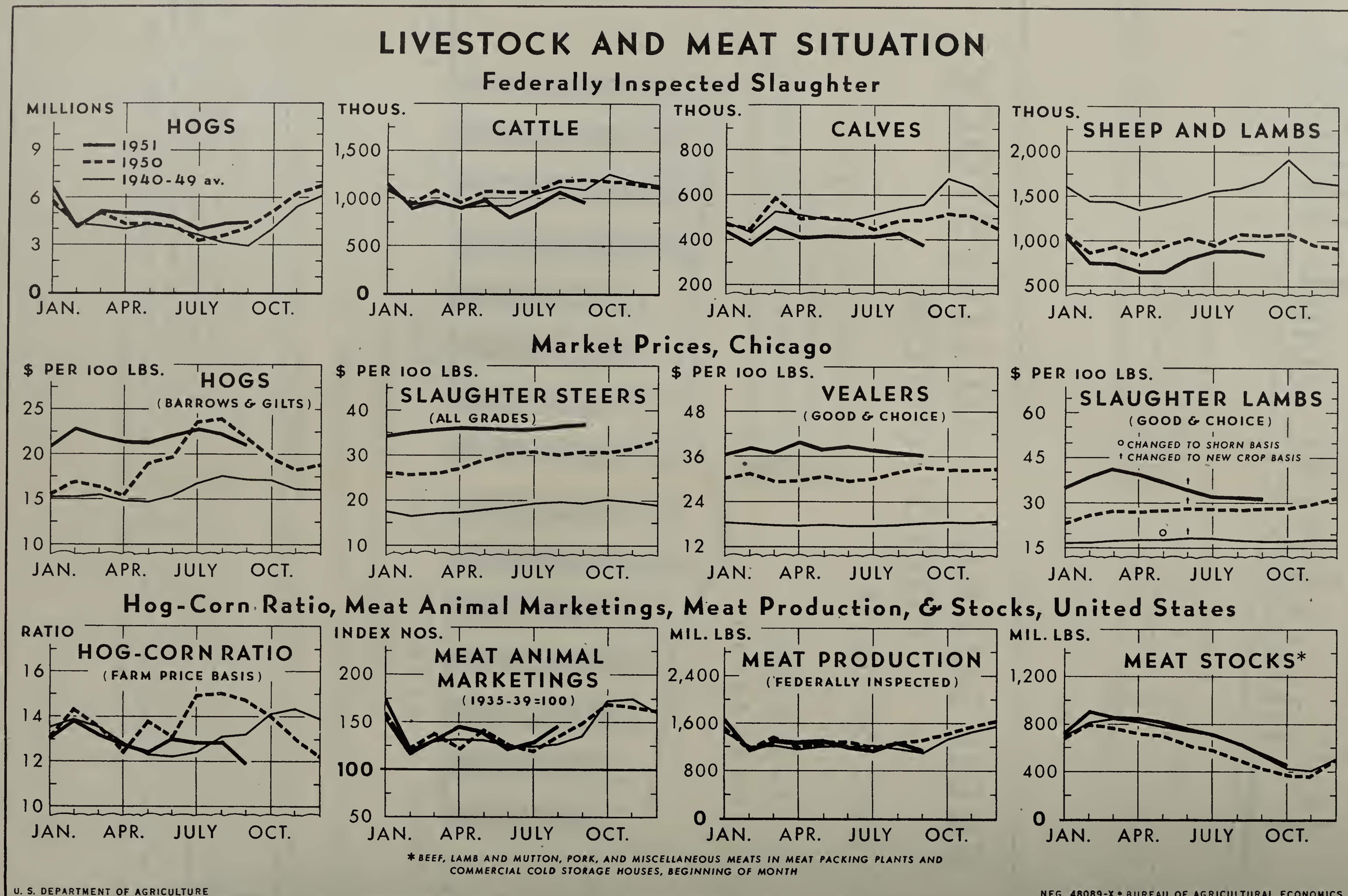
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-56 BAE OCTOBER 1951



Supplies of feed concentrates are large enough to maintain in 1952 the recent high level of aggregate livestock production. However, this is true by virtue of the sizable carry-over stocks of feed grains, which will probably be reduced during the current feeding year. Production of the four feed grains this year was the smallest since 1947 and only a little above the average of the last 10 years. A larger production of these crops will be needed in future years if the output of livestock products, particularly those products from grain, is to continue upward.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
40
30
20
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
200
150
100
50
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X • BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 16, 1951

SUMMARY

An increase in meat production will be realized in 1952 from the expansion now taking place in numbers of meat animals on farms. The increase may be large enough to provide a level of meat consumption per person equal to at least the 1948-50 average of 144 pounds. Consumption in 1951 is now indicated at 141 pounds.

Most of the increase in output of meat next year will be in beef and veal. A larger slaughter of cattle and calves than this year seems certain. Cattle slaughter for 1951 is at a 10-year low and calf slaughter may be an 18-year low. At the same time, numbers of cattle and calves on farms are being increased, perhaps by about 6 or 7 million head, and a new high of around 90 to 91 million head is expected at the end of the year. Trends during previous upswings in numbers and the present favorable prices and generally adequate feed supplies would point to a moderate increase in slaughter next year, and to a continuing but slower expansion of numbers on farms. Based on past experience, a reasonable expectation would be an increase in combined beef and veal output of around 10 percent.

Increases this large in output of beef would lessen upward pressure on prices of beef and cattle and might bring some reductions at times of largest marketings. But no substantial decrease in prices of cattle for 1952 as a whole from the 1951 average seems likely to result from the slaughter in prospect.

If past trends are repeated, the biggest increases in cattle slaughter will come after 1952. If percentage increases follow past cycles, numbers of cattle and calves may pass 100 million by 1955. With an inventory of this size, annual consumption of beef per person would be more than 70 pounds, the largest since 1909 and a little above the postwar high of 69 pounds in 1947. Prices of beef cattle, now in a very favorable relationship to prices of most other farm products, would likely be at a more nearly average relationship.

Numbers of cattle on feed this winter may equal or exceed the record high of last winter. Prices being paid for feeders this fall are a record for the season and returns from feeding will be no more than average if slaughter cattle prices remain at about present levels. Returns will be small if slaughter prices should decline.

Pork production in the first 7 or 8 months of 1952 will probably be a little larger than this year, reflecting increases in 1951 pig crops. Production in later months of next year may be a little smaller than a year earlier, as the current feed situation may result in a small decrease in the 1952 spring pig crop. A downtrend in hog production, should it start in 1952, would be the first after five successive years of expansion. It would result principally from the smaller feed supply relative to the livestock and poultry to be fed. Feed grain production in 1951, although larger than in most years before 1948,

was a little smaller than in 1950 and less than probable disappearance in the 1951-52 feeding year. A reduction of reserves is likely. Prices of feed grains are higher than last year, and the hog-corn price ratio is now about average after staying above average in most months of the last 3 years.

The price outlook for hogs does not point to any substantial change from 1951. Larger supplies of other meats would likely restrict any tendency toward much higher hog prices. Price controls also would tend to limit prices of pork and indirectly prices of hogs at the season of shortest supplies.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs, like that of cattle, has been very small in 1951 as numbers on farms are being built up. A somewhat larger slaughter as well as a further increase in inventory numbers is in prospect for 1952. Prices of both lambs and wool will likely remain relatively favorable.

Production of meat animals is likely to continue generally profitable in 1952. Gross receipts from sales may be a little larger than this year, depending chiefly on volume of marketings. However, higher prices will be paid for feed and other items of expense.

THE OUTLOOK FOR MEAT IN 1952

Moderate Increase in Meat Production Likely in 1952; Mostly in Beef

Production of meat is likely to be moderately larger in 1952 than this year. The increase would continue a gradual expansion that began in 1949 but the percentage gain next year may be greater than in any of the previous three years.

Most of the increase next year will be in beef and veal. Production of lamb and mutton may rise somewhat from 1951 but will still be small. Pork output may no more than maintain its present high level.

Meat production may be large enough in 1952 for consumption per person to equal or surpass by a pound or two the 1948-50 average of 144 pounds. This would be an increase from the 141 pounds now indicated for 1951 but would be considerably short of the 155 pounds consumed in 1947.

Production of beef seems certain to rise in 1952. The main question is as to the extent of the increase. The most probable prospect is a gain of around 10 percent. This would raise consumption per person from the 58 pounds now indicated for 1951 to approximately 62 pounds. Larger cattle slaughter and beef production in 1952 will result from larger marketings made possible by the greater numbers of cattle on farms and a reduced rate of expansion in numbers.

Beef production in the first quarter of 1952 may not be much larger than a year earlier, but sizable gains are likely in the last 3 quarters.

Table 1.- Meat production by kind and civilian consumption per person, United States, 1937-41 average and by years 1942-51, and forecast for 1952

Year	Meat production 1/					Civilian consumption	
	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excl. lard	Total	Total	per capita
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Pounds
1937-41 av.	7,195	1,022	884	8,573	17,674	17,599	133.8
1942	8,843	1,151	1,042	10,876	21,912	18,451	139.5
1943	8,571	1,167	1,104	13,640	24,482	18,921	146.0
1944	9,112	1,738	1,024	13,304	25,178	19,827	153.5
1945	10,275	1,661	1,054	10,697	23,687	18,737	144.4
1946	9,373	1,440	970	11,173	22,956	21,367	153.4
1947	10,428	1,599	802	10,601	23,430	22,236	155.0
1948	9,079	1,412	750	10,205	21,446	21,256	145.4
1949	9,448	1,322	607	10,333	21,710	21,378	143.9
1950	9,543	1,216	599	10,751	22,109	21,710	143.7
1951 2/	9,000	1,050	515	11,800	22,365	---	141
1952 3/	10,000	1,250	600	11,700	23,550	---	144-146

1/ Carcass weight equivalent of meat produced from total United States slaughter.
2/ Partly forecast.
3/ Forecast

Much of the increase in the beef supply will be in the medium and lower grades, but some of it will probably be in the better grades that come from grain fed cattle.

Production of veal will be larger in 1952 as slaughter of calves rises along with slaughter of cattle. Veal consumption per person, which is expected to be at a 19-year low of 6.7 pounds in 1951, may be a pound larger next year.

Lamb and mutton production in 1952 is expected to rise somewhat from its very low level of 1951. Consumption per person may exceed by a fraction of a pound the 3.3 pounds consumed in 1951, the lowest on record and less than half of the consumption rate 6 years ago.

Prices May Average About Same as 1951; Controls a Factor in Price Outlook

The moderate increase likely in meat supplies will relieve some of the upward pressure against price ceilings, particularly ceilings for beef, but does not point to any pronounced changes in prices in 1952.

This generalized outlook assumes that the price control program will continue in about its present form until at least June 30, 1952, when present authority ends. It also assumes nearly stable demand, with only slowly rising incomes and a nearly stable general price level.

Price controls have been in force on all meats since January 28, 1951. Price ceilings on beef at wholesale and retail are specified by cut and grade for various classes of dealers and stores and for various regions. Price ceilings on pork at wholesale also are specified in detail, but each dealer's retail ceiling is determined by applying his base period markup to his purchase prices. However, a schedule of retail pork ceilings similar to those on beef is due to be issued, according to an announcement by OPS.

Ceiling prices on veal and on lamb and mutton are set under the General Ceiling Price Regulation. With a few exceptions, they are each dealer's highest prices charged between December 19, 1950 and January 25, 1951. Specified ceiling price schedules for these meats also have been promised by OPS.

Canned and processed meats generally come under separate ceiling price regulations.

Prices of beef, veal, and lamb and mutton have been largely determined by their ceilings, as supplies have not been big enough to fill all the demand at ceiling prices. Prices of pork have not pressed so hard against their ceilings. During the spring of this year they were often a little below ceilings. During the summer, which is normally the season of smallest meat supplies and highest prices, pork prices were at or very near their ceilings. Pork prices are expected to drop below ceilings this fall as supplies of pork increase seasonally.

During most of the first six months of 1952, when price controls are authorized, demand for the supplies of beef and veal in prospect is expected to hold prices at or close to the present ceiling level. Later in the year some reduction in prices might result from an increase in beef supply.

Prices of pork in 1952 will probably follow their normal seasonal movements but may again be limited by ceilings at times of short supply, which are mid- to late winter and mid-summer. There is little reason to expect pork prices in 1952 to differ greatly on the average from those in 1951.

Prices of lamb and mutton seem likely to stay at ceiling levels for the period for which price controls are authorized.

Less Meat Likely to Be Imported in 1952

Meat imports in 1951 have been the largest on record, exceeding the previous high in 1918. The total for the year may amount to around 3 pounds per person, or about 2 percent of total consumption. Most of the imports are beef. High prices for beef in this country have drawn substantial quantities of fresh beef from Canada, canned and processing beef from Mexico, and canned beef from Argentina.

Imports of beef may be smaller next year, as less may be available from each of the three countries. In the case of Argentina, the new agreement with Great Britain will divert some of the Argentine beef supply to that nation. In Canada and Mexico, domestic demand is likely to claim more of the available supply, with less exported.

Military Requirements to be Large in 1952

Requirements for meat by the United States armed forces in 1952 will again be substantial. As in 1951, however, military procurement will affect certain kinds of meat more than others. Total military takings amount to between 5 and 10 percent of United States meat production, but they include more beef than pork and most of the beef procured is of the two highest grades. Since the beef supply is expected to be larger next year, military needs for beef may be met a little more easily than in 1951.

Longer Run Outlook: More Beef Per Person, Perhaps No More Pork

The outlook beyond 1952 to 1953-55 is for supplies of beef to increase more than those of pork. The beef supply could increase very substantially during the next few years. The supply of pork, on the other hand, will continue upward over the longer run only if corn production increases. Without a larger corn supply, the total output of pork will no more than hold its present level and on a per person basis will decline.

A fuller treatment of the longtime outlook for beef and pork will be found in later sections of this report.

THE OUTLOOK FOR FEED SUPPLIES

Feed Supplies Adequate But Not As Abundant as in Recent Years

Supplies of feed concentrates for the year ahead are large enough to accomodate some increase in aggregate production of grain consuming livestock. However, this gain is possible only because of the sizable stocks of feed grains on hand at the beginning of the new feeding year. Production of feed grains in 1951 was not as large as the disappearance expected in the 1951-52 feeding year, and a considerable reduction in carry-over is likely.

Most of the present stocks of feed grains were accumulated from the 1948 and the 1949 crops. Since 1948, livestock production has expanded but production of feed grains has decreased somewhat. The 1951 corn crop of 3,105 million bushels indicated on October 1 is 26 million less than the 1950 crop. Production of oats, barley and grain sorghums is below 1950. The total production of 120 million tons of the four feed grains is 5 million tons or 4 percent below last year. This is still much above the prewar average production but it is not as large as actual disappearance in the past year or the disappearance expected in the coming year (table 2).

The prospective production of feed grains together with the carry-over of those grains and the prospective supplies of other feeds adds to a total supply of 176 million tons of all concentrate feeds. This is less than the supply in the past 2 years. In relation to the numbers of livestock to be fed it is about .97 tons per animal unit, which is less than the average of 1.05 tons in 1948-50 but more than the .89 tons in 1937-41.

Included in the carry-over of feed grains is about 450 million bushels of price support corn. Most of this corn is held by the Commodity Credit Corporation, although a little is on farms as resealed old crop corn. Corn owned by CCC will be available at prices determined by that agency. In October the release price for CCC corn was $1.86 per bushel for No. 3 at Chicago. Prices are not announced for future months, although some increase for storage charges might be expected.

More Oilseed Cake and Meal in 1952

The supply of oilseed cake and meal in the 1951-52 feeding year will be larger than in the 1950-51 year. The increase will consist chiefly of cottonseed meal. The 1951 production of cottonseed is around 70 percent larger than the small 1950 production. The supplies of soybean meal and linseed meal probably will be a little smaller than in the past year, reflecting a somewhat smaller soybean crop and smaller stocks and production of flaxseed than in 1950.

Production of animal protein feeds and other byproduct feeds in the coming year will not be greatly different from the past year.

1951 Hay Crop Largest Ever

The hay crop of 1951 was the largest ever harvested. Production was especially large in the Central, Western and Northern Corn Belt. But in some other areas it was smaller than last year and not equal to needs. In a broad area extending from Pennsylvania through the Southeast to Texas and the Southwest, dry weather seriously reduced hay production.

Also, the United States hay crop is a little below average in quality this year chiefly because of rain damage or over-ripeness.

Prices of Feed Grains to be Higher

Higher prices for feed grains than in the past year are in prospect for the year ahead. This outlook is based on the smaller supply of feed, larger numbers of livestock, and the continued high prices for livestock products. Price supports are higher than in 1950. The extent of the price increase, however, will be limited by the fact that CCC corn will be available at release prices. Currently release prices are only a little higher than market prices.

More Feed Grains Needed in Future

The present feed situation may have its greatest effect on livestock production in years after 1952. By using some of the present reserves of feed grains, the present uptrend in aggregate production of livestock will not be seriously affected in 1952. But the uptrend can continue in years thereafter only if annual production of feed grains increases. Since feed grain acreage cannot expand greatly, a larger sustained production can come about only through higher yields achieved from continued improvements in cropping practices.

Table 2.- Feed concentrate balance, numbers of animal units, and feed per unit, United States, year beginning October, average 1937-41, annual 1945-51
(Data for the cover page chart)

Item	Average 1937-41	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 1/
	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons
Supply								
Stocks beginning of year 2/	16.9	14.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	29.0
Production of feed grains:								
Corn	72.1	80.7	91.0	66.8	103.1	94.6	87.7	86.9
Oats	18.1	24.6	24.0	19.2	23.9	21.3	23.4	22.0
Barley	6.9	6.4	6.3	6.7	7.6	5.7	7.2	6.1
Sorghum grains	2.2	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.7	4.3	6.7	4.6
Total	99.3	114.4	124.3	95.4	138.3	125.9	125.0	119.6
Other grains fed 3/	4.5	8.2	4.3	6.1	4.3	5.3	5.4	6.0
Byproduct feeds fed	15.4	17.7	19.4	19.0	20.0	20.6	21.5	21.5
Total supply	136.1	155.2	158.9	134.4	170.5	182.6	183.1	176.1
Utilization, October-September								
Concentrates fed								
Corn	62.2	77.3	75.6	64.3	73.3	83.1	80.0	83.4
Oats	16.1	23.9	19.6	17.8	20.7	19.6	20.5	21.0
Barley and sorghum grains	6.9	6.4	5.1	5.1	5.8	5.4	7.5	6.5
Wheat and rye	4.4	8.0	4.2	6.0	3.7	4.6	4.6	5.1
Oilseed cake and meal	3.9	5.8	5.8	6.2	7.3	7.8	8.6	8.9
Animal protein feeds	2.9	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5
Other byproduct feeds	8.6	9.5	11.3	10.4	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.1
Total concentrates fed 4/	105.0	133.3	123.9	112.2	123.5	133.3	134.1	5/137.5
Feed grains for seed, human food, industry, and export	12.1	13.3	19.3	13.6	17.7	17.2	20.5	19.0
Total utilization	117.1	146.6	143.2	125.8	141.2	150.5	154.6	156.5
Utilization adjusted to crop year basis	116.2	144.3	145.0	126.5	139.7	151.4	154.1	156.1
Stocks at end of crop year	19.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	29.0	20.0
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed annually (Millions)	153.1	167.8	161.4	155.9	162.9	170.1	176.8	181.0
Supply per animal unit (Ton)	.89	.92	.98	.86	1.05	1.07	1.04	.97
Concentrates fed per animal unit (Ton)	.69	.79	.77	.72	.76	.78	.76	.76
Units of livestock production	153.0	174.8	169.6	165.0	171.2	177.0	184.4	189
Concentrates fed per production unit (Ton)	.69	.76	.73	.68	.72	.75	.73	.73

1/ Preliminary estimates, based on indications in October 1951. 2/ Stocks of corn in all positions on October 1, oats and barley July 1, and from 1947 to date sorghum grains on October 1. 3/ Domestic wheat and rye and imported grains. 4/ Total quantities fed in the U. S. including domestically produced and imported grains and byproduct feeds. 5/ Calculated from estimated animal units and feeding rates as shown at lower section of table .

THE OUTLOOK FOR BEEF CATTLE IN 1952

Cattle Slaughter to be Larger in 1952

An increase in the number of cattle and calves slaughtered is virtually certain in 1952. This prospect is based primarily on the sharp increase taking place in numbers on farms which includes more young stock approaching slaughter age. A reasonable expectation is that the increase will be around 10 percent for cattle and 15 percent for calves. Even with such increases in slaughter, cattle numbers on farms will continue upward in 1952, though at a slower rate than in 1951.

Slaughter of cattle and calves in 1951 is the smallest in relation to January inventories of any year since 1933 and the indicated increase in inventories is the largest ever recorded both in numbers and percentagewise. Cattle and calf slaughter for the year will probably total about 26.5 million head. This is 2.0 million less than in 1950 and the smallest since 1941, yet numbers on farms last January were within 1.4 million of the all time record. Since the calf crop is probably nearly equal to the 1944 high, cattle numbers on farms are being stepped up 6 or 7 million head from the 84.2 million at the beginning of the year to an estimated 90 to 91 million expected at the end.

With this great expansion in numbers on farms a very sharp rise in slaughter would be possible in 1952. However, a more moderate increase in slaughter and further addition to herds would be indicated by present conditions and by past experience. Prices of beef cattle continue high in relation to prices of other meat animals and other farm products, encouraging further expansion of cattle herds. For the United States as a whole, supplies of forage feed would probably support some further increase in numbers. Much progress has been made toward better hay and pastures in the Corn Belt, more productive irrigated pastures in the West and much more productive pastures in the South.

Moreover, a moderately larger cattle slaughter in 1952 and another increase in numbers on farms would be consistent with previous upswings of the cattle cycle. Numbers of cattle and calves on farms have gone through five broad cycles since 1880 and a sixth upswing is now in progress. Usually the third or fourth year of herd expansion is marked by an unusually small slaughter and a large increase in numbers on farms. Except for special factors such as price controls, which this year probably accentuated the reduction in slaughter, the experience in 1951 conformed closely to the matching year in previous cycles.

Cattle Prices May Be Nearly as High as in 1951

If cattle slaughter increases about as much as now expected and demand for meat is held up by high incomes of consumers, prices of cattle in 1952 may be nearly as high as in 1951. Prices in 1951 have been restricted somewhat by price controls. The present ceilings, authority for which extends to June 30, 1952, would probably continue to have some influence on prices in at least the early months of 1952. But in the latter part of the year when cattle marketings rise seasonally, some price reductions might take place.

Long-run Outlook is for Greater Slaughter

Since the increase in cattle and calf numbers this year is equal to about one-fourth of the number being slaughtered (7 million compared with 26 to 26-1/2 million), the stage is being set for greatly expanded slaughter in future years. The most vital questions in the cattle outlook are: How high will cattle numbers go? How large will slaughter be? What will happen to prices?

Even though no extremely sharp rise in cattle and calf slaughter seems likely in 1952, a very material increase is due eventually. There is little analytical basis on which to project cattle slaughter other than the historical data of numbers slaughtered each year and those on farms January 1 each year of previous cattle cycles. If the trends in past cycles are assumed to be approximately repeated, some indication may be arrived at of possible developments in the next few years. Projections of this nature are necessarily somewhat arbitrary, but will give an idea of the level of cattle production and slaughter and of beef supply that in a normal cattle cycle would follow the rapid building of herd numbers the last two or three years.

Projections for 4 future years are given in the lower section of table 3. They show that if slaughter increases each year and January 1 numbers continue upward at a slowing rate until they level off at the middle of the 1950's, the annual slaughter of cattle and calves at that time might exceed 40 million head and January numbers might pass 100 million.

A slaughter of 40 million head of cattle and calves in 1955 would be one-half larger than that of 1951. However, supplies of beef would not increase so much for two reasons. The first is that slaughter of calves in relation to the number of cattle slaughtered will be much higher than in 1951. In 1944, for example, when cattle numbers on farms were about stationary, calves slaughtered were 42 percent of the combined slaughter of cattle and calves. In 1947, they were 38 percent. But in 1951 calves are only about 34 percent of the total. In years ahead, the percentage will climb again.

The second reason is that the average weight of cattle slaughtered will be lighter than in the last 2 or 3 years. In 1940-45 the average production of beef per head slaughtered was 479 pounds. In 1951 it is about 517 pounds. The heavier weight results from the higher percentage of steers and lower percentage of cows and heifers in total cattle slaughter and from extensive grain feeding which increases market weights of all classes of cattle. This past uptrend in weights also will change direction within the next year or so.

In the projections of table 2, by 1955 calf slaughter as a percentage of the combined total is assumed to rise to 40 percent, and the average dressed weight per head of cattle slaughtered is assumed to fall to 480 pounds.

The supply of beef and veal based on these projections, and on assumed net imports of meat at recent levels, would provide for a consumption per person of 71 pounds of beef and 12 pounds of veal in 1955. This would be the largest consumption of beef since 1909 and two pounds per person above the recent high point in consumption in 1947.

Any severe economic or physical disturbances, such as a sudden drop in demand for beef or a drought in range or pasture regions, would interrupt the sequence that has been projected. Slaughter would be much larger than shown in one year, and thereafter would be smaller than the figures presented.

Relation of Cattle to Other Prices May Become More Nearly Average in Future

Increases in cattle slaughter and beef supply in years ahead will bring a substantial adjustment in the relationship of prices of cattle to other farm products. That relationship has been considerably above average, and may return to a more nearly average level.

Table 3.- Number of cattle and calves on farms, raised and slaughtered, and quantity of beef and veal produced and consumed, 1940-51 and projections to 1955

Year	Number on farms Jan. 1	Change in numbers during year: Supply: Calf crop	Supply: Imports	Disappearance: Slaughtered: Cattle	Disappearance: Slaughtered: Calves	Disappearance: Other disappearance	Net change	Meat produced: Beef: Per head slaughtered	Beef: Total	Veal: Per head slaughtered	Veal: Total	Meat consumed per person: Beef	Meat consumed per person: Veal
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Pounds	Mil.lb.	Pounds	Mil.lb.	Pounds	Pounds
1940	68,309	29,886	644	14,958	9,089	3,037	+3,446	480	7,175	108	981	54.7	7.4
1941	71,755	31,868	749	16,419	9,252	2,676	+4,270	492	8,082	112	1,036	60.5	7.6
1942	76,025	34,388	669	18,033	9,718	2,127	+5,179	490	8,843	118	1,151	60.8	8.2
1943	81,204	34,797	653	17,845	9,940	3,535	+4,130	480	8,571	117	1,167	52.9	8.2
1944	85,334	37,040	358	19,844	14,242	3,073	+ 239	459	9,112	122	1,738	55.3	12.4
1945	85,573	35,176	512	21,691	13,645	3,491	-3,139	474	10,275	122	1,661	59.0	11.8
1946	82,434	34,550	558	19,824	12,168	4,343	-1,227	473	9,373	118	1,440	61.3	9.9
1947	81,207	35,234	85	22,393	13,695	2,312	-3,081	466	10,428	117	1,599	69.1	10.7
1948	78,126	33,708	462	19,186	12,328	2,484	+ 172	473	9,079	115	1,412	62.6	9.4
1949	78,298	34,464	434	18,789	11,345	3,010	+1,754	503	9,448	117	1,322	63.5	8.7
1950	80,052	35,120	461	18,642	10,435	2,377	+4,127	512	9,543	117	1,216	63.0	7.9
1951 1/	84,179			17,400	8,900			517	9,000	118	1,050	58.0	6.7
	Projections based on trends in past cattle cycles												
1952	91,000			19,500	10,600			514		119		62	7.8
1953	96,000			21,800	12,200			500		119		67	9.0
1954	100,000			22,800	14,000			490		120		68	10.4
1955 2/	103,000			24,700	16,500			480		120		71	12.1

1/ Preliminary and partly forecasted.
2/ Slaughter in 1955 based on a nearly stationary level of cattle numbers.

Table 4.- Prices of beef steers and slaughter lambs at Chicago and price received by farmers for hogs, and ratios of relationship between them, 1922-51

Year	Price per 100 pounds: Choice slaughter steers, Chicago 1/	Choice and Prime slaughter lambs, Chicago 2/	Received by farmers for hogs	Ratio of beef steer price to price of: Lambs	Hogs
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
1922	9.23	13.23	8.40	69.8	109.9
1923	10.15	13.24	6.94	76.7	146.3
1924	10.00	13.98	7.34	71.5	136.2
1925	11.02	15.16	10.91	72.7	101.0
1926	9.87	13.76	11.79	71.7	83.7
1927	11.90	13.91	9.64	85.5	123.4
1928	14.40	14.94	8.54	96.4	168.6
1929	13.89	14.64	9.42	94.9	147.5
1930	11.45	9.91	8.84	115.5	129.5
1931	8.63	7.77	5.73	111.1	150.6
1922-31 Average	11.05	13.05	8.76	84.7	126.1
1932	7.23	6.11	3.34	118.3	216.5
1933	5.56	6.63	3.53	83.9	157.5
1934	6.94	7.89	4.14	88.0	167.6
1935	10.79	8.85	8.65	121.9	124.7
1936	8.82	9.86	9.37	89.5	94.1
1937	11.79	10.59	9.50	111.3	124.1
1938	9.14	8.39	7.74	108.9	118.1
1939	9.81	9.26	6.23	105.9	157.5
1940	10.48	9.65	5.39	108.6	194.4
1941	11.36	11.19	9.09	101.5	125.0
1932-41 Average	9.19	8.84	6.70	104.0	137.2
1942	13.90	13.81	13.00	100.7	106.9
1943	15.34	14.95	13.70	102.6	112.0
1944	15.73	15.22	13.10	103.4	120.1
1945	16.00	15.48	14.00	103.4	114.3
1946	19.32	18.65	17.50	103.6	110.4
1947	26.22	23.59	24.10	111.1	108.8
1948	30.96	25.96	23.10	119.3	134.0
1949	26.07	25.45	18.10	102.4	144.0
1950	29.68	27.30	18.00	108.7	164.9
1951 3/	36.06	35.43	20.78	101.8	173.5
1942-51 Average	22.93	21.58	17.54	106.3	130.7

1/ Corn Belt beef steers sold out of first hands at Chicago. Called good grade until 1951.
2/ Formerly called Good and Choice.
3/ Average for 9 months.

In the first 9 months of 1951 the Chicago price of Choice steers was 174 percent of the average price received by farmers for hogs. In three past periods the relationship averaged 126 to 137 percent (table 4). Prices of steers are not so high relative to prices of lambs, which also are above a normal ratio to prices of most farm products. As measured by parity standards, farmers received prices for beef cattle averaging 148 percent of parity in the first 9 months of 1951. By comparison, prices for lambs averaged 147 percent of parity, prices for hogs averaged 98 percent, and prices for all farm products averaged 108 percent of parity.

A return to more nearly average price relationships in future years does not necessarily mean that price declines will be disastrous. How severe they will be will depend largely on demand. If productivity, employment and incomes in the United States should continue upward, prices for beef cattle would fall off only moderately. On the other hand, economic depression and a falling general price level would have very serious consequences to the cattle industry.

Returns from Cattle Feeding to be Smaller This Year

Cattle feeders have been paying higher prices for feeder cattle this fall than in any previous fall on record. The average of $31.90 per 100 pounds paid for stockers and feeders at Kansas City this September was $5.00 above a year earlier. Moreover, the price paid this September was only $4.78 lower than the price for Choice slaughter steers at Chicago the same month, which is closer than an average relationship.

At these purchase prices, returns from feeding will be no more than average, and considerably less than in the past two years, if prices of fed steers for slaughter are about the same at the marketing season next year as they are now.

That prices of slaughter cattle will not change greatly by next spring is a reasonable expectation. However, if slaughter cattle prices should be reduced by a greater increase in marketings than now forseen or by a weakening of demand, returns from feeding could prove very small.

The difference between major cost items in feeding cattle in the Corn Belt and the value of fed steers amounted to about $82 per head in the 1950-51 feeding year and $76 per head in 1949-50 (table 5). These are the largest value margins in feeding ever realized. Coming in years when the price of cattle advanced during the feeding period, they contrast sharply with the zero value for 1948-49, when high prices were paid for feeder stock but slaughter prices declined. These calculations are representative of Corn Belt conditions but do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

Feeders who bought cattle this past winter for sale this summer or fall had much smaller returns than did those who bought last fall and sold during the spring and summer. Feeder cattle prices moved up to record highs in March and April of this year. Average prices of both feeder and slaughter stock were lower in mid-October.

Table 5.- Specified average prices and costs in the feeding of steers in the Corn Belt, 1942-51

Item	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Average price per 100 pounds for Choice grade beef steers sold out of first hands, Chicago, April-July	15.52	15.91	16.15	17.46	25.26	32.59	25.40	29.36	36.15
Subsidy, per 100 pounds			.29	.38					
Average cost of feeder steers at Kansas City per 100 pounds, August-December	12.08	11.52	11.56	12.91	16.37	21.75	25.00	20.65	27.73
Average price per bushel of corn, North Central States, September-July	.862	1.039	1.009	1.175	1.490	2.201	1.239	1.175	1.511
Average price per ton received by farmers for alfalfa hay, North Central States September-July 1/	11.31	16.34	17.39	15.54	22.37	24.37	23.96	21.39	21.34
Average wholesale price per ton for soybean meal, 41 percent protein, Chicago, September-July	41.21	51.90	52.00	58.32	76.78	94.19	74.06	75.85	75.34
					Total value				
Market value at Chicago for Choice grade beef steers, market weight 1,050 pounds	162.96	167.06	169.58	183.33	265.23	342.20	266.70	308.28	379.58
Subsidy credit			3.04	3.99					
Market value plus subsidy	162.96	167.06	172.62	187.32	265.23	342.20	266.70	308.28	379.58
Market cost at Kansas City of 700 pounds feeder steers	84.56	80.64	80.92	90.37	114.59	152.25	175.00	144.55	194.11
Cost of transportation from market to feeder	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.73	3.61	3.96	3.96
Cost of 45 bushels of corn	38.79	46.76	45.40	52.88	67.05	99.04	55.76	52.88	68.00
Cost of 0.75 tons of Alfalfa hay	8.48	12.26	13.04	11.66	16.78	18.28	17.97	16.04	16.00
Cost of 150 pounds of soybean meal	3.09	3.89	3.90	4.37	5.76	7.06	5.55	5.69	5.65
Transportation and marketing expense	5.93	6.01	6.00	6.07	6.27	7.57	8.65	8.97	9.18
Total of cost items shown 2/	143.40	152.11	151.81	167.90	213.00	286.93	266.54	232.09	296.90
Margin of market value of steers over total of cost items shown 2/	19.56	14.95	20.81	19.42	52.23	55.27	0.16	76.19	82.68

1/ Price for loose hay through 1945-46; for baled hay 1946-47 to date. Prices for 1946-47 and 1947-48 estimated from price paid for baled alfalfa hay, United States. 2/ Does not include overhead costs, cost of pasture or other feed ingredients and death loss, or credits for manure and for hogs following steers. In some estimates, the net additional cost is assumed to be 10 percent of the feed cost. The feed ration and prices shown are designed to be fairly representative of average feeding experience in the Corn Belt, but do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders. Data for earlier years may be found in October issue each year.

Number Fed May be Largest Ever

It is possible that at least as many and perhaps more cattle than ever before will be fed this winter. Evidence is the very large numbers of cattle on pasture and range this summer and the smaller cattle slaughter this fall than last, which suggests that more may have gone into feedlots. Also data on shipments of cattle into the Corn Belt since mid-summer have shown a movement above last year. The movement during September was the second highest on record. Moreover, reports for 3 states (Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska) showed a 2 percent increase in the number on feed there on October 1 this year over last.

THE OUTLOOK FOR HOGS IN 1952

Prospects are that the number of hogs slaughtered in all of 1952 will about equal the large slaughter this year. Slaughter in the first 7 to 8 months will probably be a little above a year earlier, as a result of the increase in this year's pig crops. The prospective 1951 pig crop of about 106 million head is the largest for a peacetime year and second only to the 1943 crop of 121.8 million head. The spring crop was up 7 percent from the 1950 spring crop and a 3 percent increase in the fall crop was indicated by farmers' intentions June 1. Slaughter late in 1952 will depend largely on next year's spring pig crop; it may be a little smaller than this year if the outlook for a small reduction in the spring crop proves correct. (table 6).

At most the 1952 spring pig crop will be little larger than this year's spring crop, and the most likely estimate is for a small reduction. Already in 1951 there have been signs of hog production leveling off.

A somewhat intensified competition for feed and labor will affect hog production in 1952. An expanding production of grain-consuming livestock and poultry has reduced the carry-over of corn, and as prices of corn have increased the hog-corn price ratio has declined from its favorable level the past 3 years to near its long-time average of 12.0.

Table 6.- Pig crops and hog slaughter, average 1937-41, by years 1947-52

Year	Pig crop: Spring	Pig crop: Fall	Pig crop: Total	Hog slaughter 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Average 1937-41	46,801	30,428	77,229	65,642
1947	52,802	31,345	84,147	74,710
1948	51,266	33,921	85,187	71,936
1949	58,426	37,175	95,601	75,293
1950	59,801	40,657	100,458	79,488
1951	63,818	2/42,000	2/105,818	3/86,300
1952	---	---	---	4/86,000

1/ Total, including farm slaughter, for the calendar year.
2/ Based on farmers' intentions for fall farrowing as reported June 1, and on an average size of litter for the fall crop with allowance for trend. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.
3/ Partly forecast.
4/ Forecast.

Hog prices have shown less variation during 1951 than in any year since 1946 when OPA price controls were ended. One reason is that price ceilings on pork held down the price of live hogs to some degree during the mid-summer season when prices are usually highest. The price of barrows and gilts at Chicago early in August at $23.00 per hundred pounds was only $2.00 above the springtime low in April. And this comparatively small increase was made possible only by a narrowing of marketing margins as wholesale and retail prices of pork were steady. When supplies of hogs increased in August, their price declined as margins widened. Prices of hogs stabilized in late September, and in early October were a little above a year earlier. Prices are expected to decline to a seasonal low in early December, and to average not greatly different from last fall.

So long as price ceilings on pork remain in force in about their present form, they may continue to restrict prices of hogs only at times of smallest marketings. At other seasons about the usual changes in hog prices may occur, and the overall average price for 1952 may be fairly close to the average for 1951. The hog-corn price ratio may therefore stay at near its long-time average level. This ratio would provide average returns for efficient hog production, but would be less remunerative than the higher price relationships of the last three years.

Hog production in late 1952 and in future years will be governed by the annual production of corn and other feed. Since feed grain carry-overs are being reduced, hog production can expand only if feed grain crops are larger than in 1950 and 1951. At high employment and incomes, demand for meat would probably support a gradual further expansion in hog production --perhaps enough to maintain pork consumption per person at about its present rate.

THE OUTLOOK FOR SHEEP AND LAMBS IN 1952

Numbers of sheep and lambs on farms increased in 1950 for the first time since 1941, and a substantial gain is being made in 1951 as the lamb crop is up slightly and slaughter down to its lowest point in this century. A further increase in numbers on farms is likely during 1952, but the number slaughtered will probably be larger than this year (table 7).

The Texas lamb crop this year was reduced by unfavorable weather, but the crop for the rest of the country was 5 percent larger than last year.

Prices of lambs this fall, even though limited somewhat by price ceilings on lamb at wholesale and retail, have been about $4.00 per 100 pounds higher than last fall. It is doubtful that slaughter of sheep and lambs will increase enough in 1952 to cause any great change in prices.

Prices of wool have declined during recent months after rising to an all-time high in March of this year. World consumption of wool in the first half of 1951 was 10 to 15 percent below that of a year earlier. In 1952, prices to domestic producers of shorn wool may be somewhat higher than this fall, but may not equal the 1951 average.

Prices of lambs and of wool, like prices of beef cattle, are above an average relationship to prices of other farm products. The long-run prospects for retaining a favorable relationship for prices of lambs and possibly for prices of wool are rather promising. The capacity for sheep and lamb production in this country, in view of competition from cattle and other enterprises, will probably never provide as much lamb and mutton per person as formerly was available, and will supply only a fraction of the nation's wool requirement.

THE OUTLOOK FOR HORSES AND MULES

Horses and mules continue to disappear from United States farms. On January 1, 1951 only 6-3/4 million head were reported on farms, less than half as many as 10 years earlier and only a small fraction of numbers 35 years ago. That numbers on farms are being decreased again in 1951 is indicated by the number slaughtered under Federal inspection (chiefly for animal foods). In the first 9 months of this year 240,000 head were slaughtered, compared with 190,000 in the same period of 1950. Horses and mules on farms next January may be down close to 6 million.

Table 7.- Sheep and lambs on farms and ranches January 1, lamb crop, number slaughtered during year and annual wool production, average 1937-41, by years 1947-51

Year	Number January 1				Lamb crop	Slaughter		Shorn wool production
	Stock sheep	On feed: Eleven Corn Belt States	On feed: All states	Total		Total	Sheep as percentage of Fed. insp. slaughter of sheep and lambs	
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Mil. lb.
1937-41 av.	45,879	3,223	5,979	51,857	30,639	21,874	6.7	367
1947	32,125	3,693	5,693	37,818	22,082	18,766	13.8	253
1948	29,976	2,843	4,851	34,827	20,011	17,439	16.3	234
1949	27,651	2,468	4,003	31,654	18,810	13,872	10.3	217
1950	27,099	2,272	3,644	30,743	18,522	13,294	9.9	220
1951 1/	28,065	2,186	3,440	31,505	18,761	11,270	10	229

1/ Preliminary estimates. Slaughter partly forecast.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Sept. 1950	Jan.-Sept. 1951	1950 Sept.	1951 Aug.	1951 Sept.
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per					
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	32.48	38.70	32.00	37.92	38.77
Choice	do.	28.93	36.06	30.32	35.85	36.68
Good	do.	(26.41)	33.41	(28.07)	33.10	33.73
Commercial	do.		30.93		30.08	30.82
Utility	do.	23.11	28.31	24.08	27.23	27.68
All grades	do.	28.32	35.67	30.57	36.39	36.99
Omaha, all grades	do.	27.04	34.29	29.67	34.65	35.59
Sioux City, all grades	do.	27.24	34.39	29.83	35.01	35.39
Cows, Chicago 2/						
Commercial	do.	21.24	28.03	22.98	28.65	28.97
Utility	do.	18.60	24.88	20.26	24.37	24.63
Canner and Cutter	do.	16.09	21.39	17.42	21.07	20.98
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	30.60	37.47	32.95	36.68	36.25
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	26.01	33.36	26.90	32.59	31.90
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	22.59	29.17	24.60	29.10	29.50
Veal calves	do.	25.49	32.89	27.80	32.60	32.80
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	18.95	21.24	20.26	21.50	20.02
180-200 pounds	do.	19.58	22.01	21.45	22.38	20.69
200-220 pounds	do.	19.74	22.16	21.98	22.72	20.94
220-240 pounds	do.	19.65	22.07	22.30	22.70	20.99
240-270 pounds	do.	19.32	21.80	22.32	22.38	20.97
270-300 pounds	do.	18.82	21.29	22.09	21.67	20.52
All weights	do.	19.22	21.74	21.81	22.23	20.84
Seven markets 3/	do.	19.21	21.43	21.84	22.04	20.59
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.48	18.85	20.12	19.14	17.86
Price received by farmers	do.	18.20	20.78	21.30	21.20	19.70
Hog-corn price ratio 4/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	13.3	12.3	14.2	12.4	11.6
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.9	12.8	14.8	12.8	11.9
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.80	18.61	13.01	14.63	14.71
Price received by farmers	do.	10.77	16.53	11.80	15.00	14.90
Lambs						
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	26.53	35.43	27.72	31.59	31.44
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	5/26.25	6/32.53	28.50	31.34	32.64
Price received by farmers	do.	24.19	31.86	25.70	29.80	29.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers						
(1910-14=100)		334	417	372	416	411
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	45.92	56.22	48.39	56.50	56.90
Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.33	56.77	52.56	58.00	58.00
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.57	23.62	23.20	24.38	22.74
Average per 100 pounds	do.	28.24	32.43	31.85	33.47	31.22
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	23.76	26.46	27.04	26.96	26.86
Average per 100 pounds	do.	33.31	37.10	37.91	37.80	37.66
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	72.2	---	77.2	84.7	---
Lamb	do.	69.0	---	71.0	77.5	---
Pork, including lard	do.	40.2	---	46.6	45.7	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		234.0	---	259.5	278.5	---
Retail (1935-39=100) 7/		238.8	---	260.2	276.6	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Average of prices for January-February, March August and September.
6/ Average of prices for January, August and September.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Sept. 1950	Jan.-Sept. 1951	1950 Sept.	1951 Aug.	1951 Sept.	1951 Oct.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		134	——	148	145	——	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	1,642	1,801	447	293	515	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,561	2,264	576	492	703	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	9,673	8,619	1,196	1,064	956	
Calves	do.	4,384	3,684	488	422	373	
Sheep and lambs	do.	8,771	7,240	1,063	889	827	
Hogs	do.	38,941	42,961	4,137	4,236	4,398	
Percentage sows	Percent	17	---	16	29	---	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	985	---	983	962	---	
Calves	do.	203	---	241	250	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	96	---	93	95	---	
Hogs	do.	247	---	233	262	---	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	542	2/ 549	538	527	2/ 520	
Veal, per head	do.	114	2/ 115	133	140	2/ 138	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	46	2/ 47	44	45	2/ 44	
Pork, per head 3/	do.	138	2/ 139	133	146	2/ 135	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 3/	do.	56	2/ 55	57	56	2/ 56	
Lard, per head	do.	36	2/ 37	32	38	2/ 34	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	2/ 15	14	14	2/ 14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	5,215	2/4,712	640	558	2/ 497	
Veal	do.	496	2/ 419	65	59	2/ 52	
Lamb and mutton	do.	402	2/ 336	47	39	2/ 36	
Pork 3/	do.	5,377	2/5,948	547	615	2/ 596	
Lard	do.	1,405	2/1,570	131	159	2/ 148	
Total commercial slaughter 4/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	13,276	---	1,619	1,508	---	
Calves	do.	7,513	---	834	726	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	9,624	---	1,164	1,001	---	
Hogs	do.	47,197	---	4,999	5,224	---	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	6,867	---	832	768	---	
Veal	do.	852	---	107	98	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	438	---	51	44	---	
Pork 3/	do.	6,426	---	658	741	---	
Lard	do.	1,612	---	152	182	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	73	87	94	94
Veal	do.	---	---	7	7	8	8
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	6	6	6	7
Pork	do.	---	---	304	496	402	312
Total meat and meat products 5/	do.	---	---	466	701	605	505

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Estimate based on weekly data.
3/ Excludes lard.
4/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
5/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

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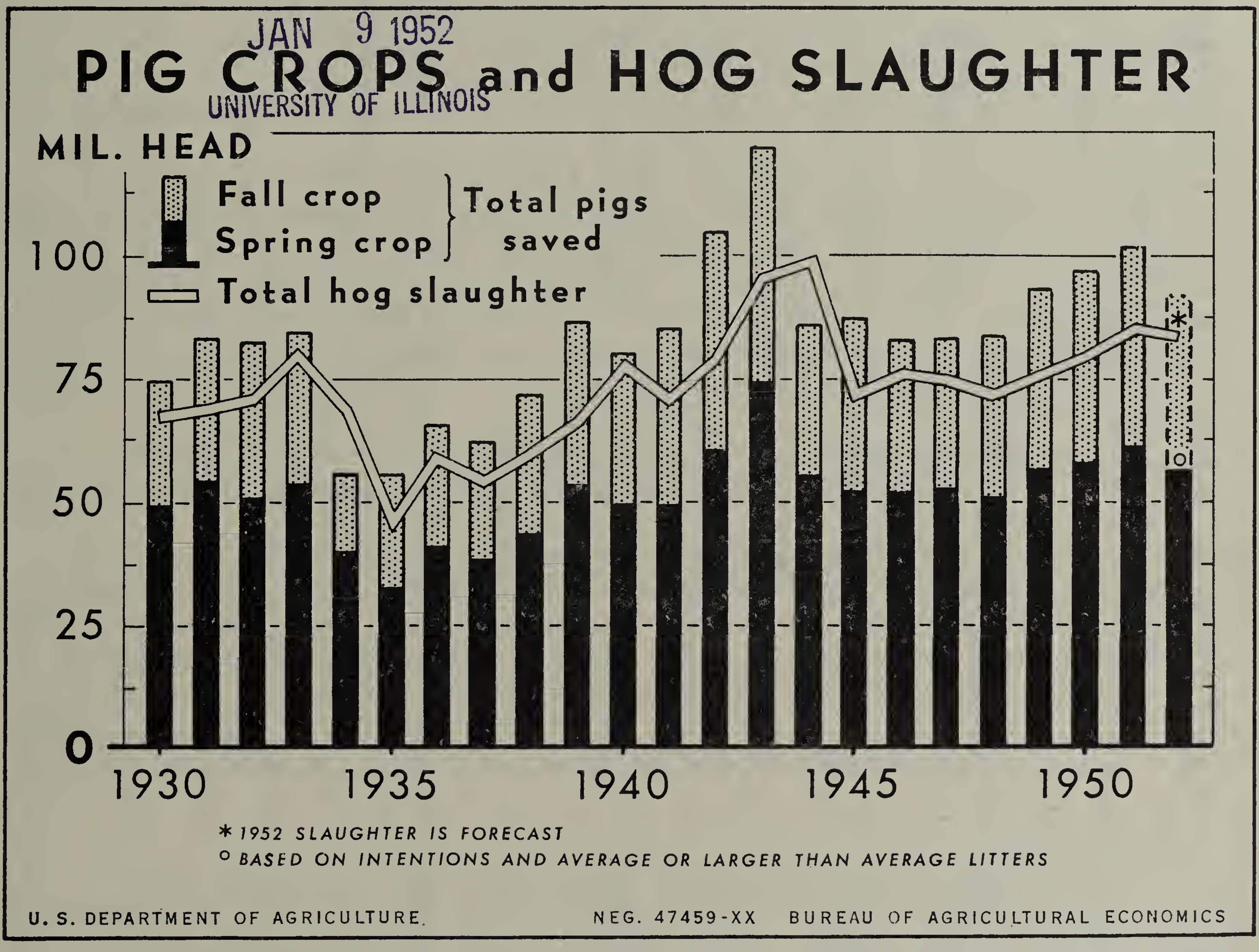
JAN. 6

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

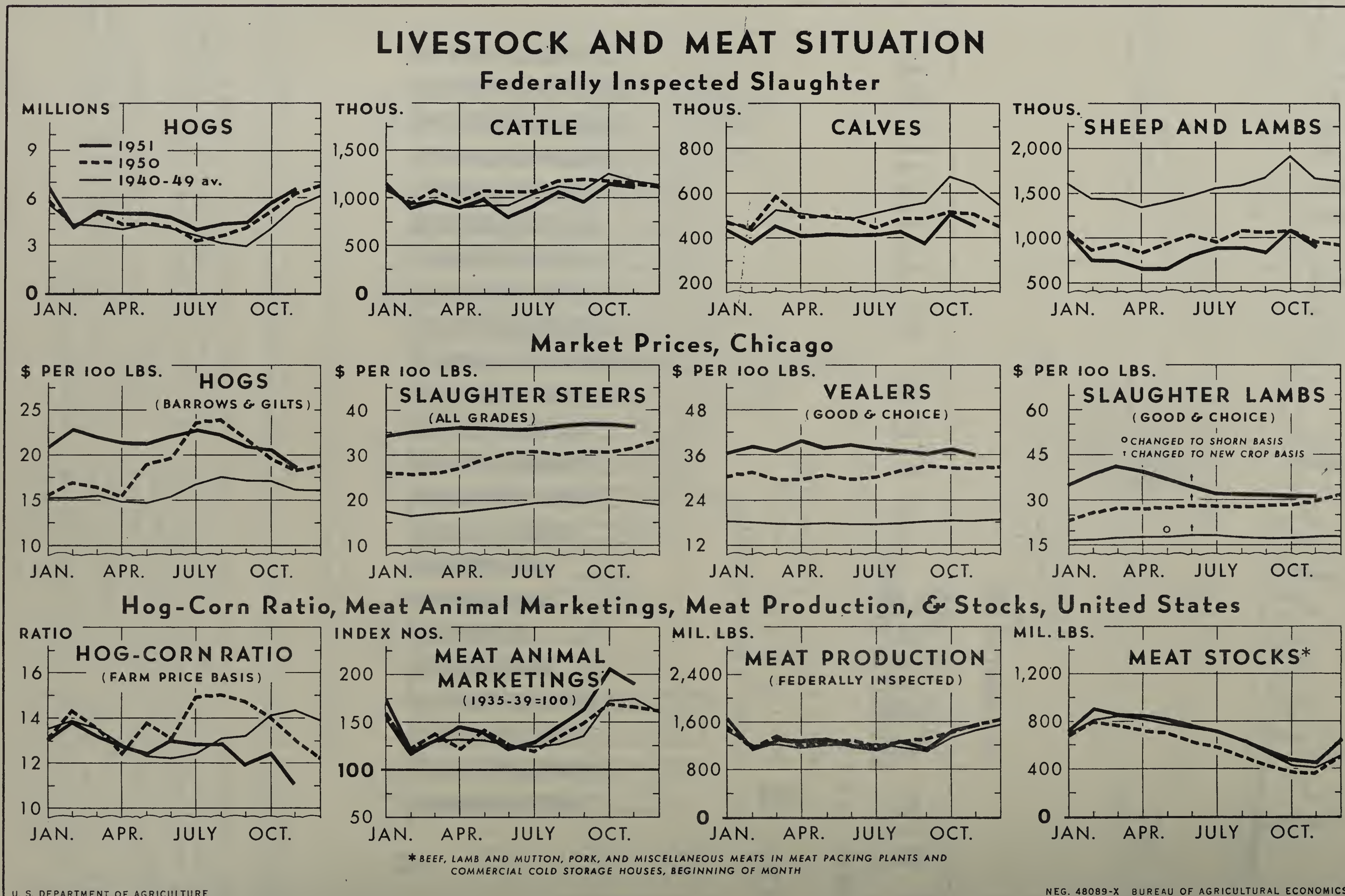
LMS-57 BAE NOV.-DEC. 1951

In this issue:
Cattle Slaughter in Relation to Numbers on Farms
Index to 1951 Issues



Hog production has turned down after an uptrend of several years. The 1951 fall pig crop was only 2 percent larger than the 1950 fall crop, and the increase was probably confined to the first half of the season. Farmers' intentions on December 1 indicated a 1952 spring pig crop 9 percent smaller than the crop a year earlier. Because of this probable reduction in pigs saved, prospects are for hog slaughter beginning in early fall to drop considerably below the large slaughter of this past fall. The 1952 total hog slaughter will be moderately less than 1951 slaughter, and a greater decrease may occur in 1953.

Output of beef is expected to increase at least as much in 1952 as output of pork decreases, and output of all meat for the year may be somewhat larger than in 1951.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1951
1950
1940-49 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
40
30
20
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(GOOD & CHOICE)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
200
150
100
50
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48089-X BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

SUMMARY

Meat production is expected to continue as large or a little larger than a year earlier in the next 2 or 3 months although total output will decline seasonally as hog slaughter is reduced from its December peak. By next spring, meat production may be considerably above the small output of last spring.

Commercial meat production during October-December was probably slightly larger than a year earlier after running 2 percent less in the previous two quarters. Pork has continued to be the only meat in larger supply than in the previous year. However, the output of beef has improved relatively and in the October-December quarter was close to that of a year earlier. In months ahead pork will contribute less and less of the gain in meat supplies over last year and beef, veal and lamb will make up a larger share. By late 1952, pork production will be considerably smaller than at the same time in 1951, and beef production may be considerably larger.

The shift from pork to beef will reflect both the sharp expansion in cattle numbers in 1950 and 1951 and the present downtrend in size of pig crops. The 1951 fall pig crop, from which marketings will begin in late winter and early spring, was only 2 percent larger than the 1950 fall crop. And farmers' intentions are for a 9 percent smaller spring pig crop this year than last. The reduction will affect hog slaughter and pork production beginning in the fall of 1952.

Prospects are that consumption of all meat per person in 1952 will be somewhat above the 140 pounds estimated for 1951.

Prices of hogs are expected to rise seasonally until late February or sometime in March. Their total decline during the fall was a little less than normal for the season, and prices have about equalled last year. Prices of cattle declined moderately late in 1951. Prospective supplies of cattle do not point to a material weakness in cattle prices. Price strength is more likely for cows than for other classes, while a further seasonal decline may occur in prices of top grades of steers.

This issue is for two months, November and December.

Most issues in the future will be bi-monthly.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Hog Production Turning Down; Fall Pig Crop Up Only 2 Percent Spring Intentions Down 9 Percent

Hog production is turning down after increasing for 5 successive years. The 1951 fall pig crop was only 2 percent larger than the 1950 fall crop. And farmers' intentions on December 1 were for 8 percent fewer sows to farrow in the spring of 1952 than of 1951. If the size of litter is average, adjusted for trend, the 1952 spring pig crop would be 9 percent less than the crop a year earlier (table 1).

The 1951 fall pig crop of 40.2 million head compares with the 39.4 million saved in the fall of 1950. The increase, though small, was the fifth in succession, and the crop was the third largest fall crop on record.

The average of 6.60 pigs saved per litter was the second largest on record, second only to the 6.65 saved in the fall of 1950.

The monthly distribution of farrowings shows a higher percentage of the total in the first 3 months for this fall than last (table 2). In September, October, and November the number of sows farrowing was less than a year before. The progressive reduction in farrowings throughout the season reflected the dimming prospects for a big corn crop.

In all regions except the South Central States more pigs were saved this fall than in the fall of 1950. In both the East and West North Central regions the increase was the same as the United States average of 2 percent.

The 1951 total pig crop, spring and fall combined, was 102 million head. It was less than the record 1943 crop and almost equal to the second-ranking 1942 crop.

The 56.5 million pigs in prospect for next spring would be the smallest crop since 1948 but larger than any previous crop except 1942 and 1943.

Farmers' intentions on sows farrowing indicate a reduction of 4 percent in the East North Central States and of 11 percent in the West North Central States. All other regions combined show a probable reduction of 6 percent, although increases are planned in the North Atlantic and South Atlantic States.

Smaller Supply, Higher Price of Corn Main Factor in Reduced Hog Production

The 1951 crop of 2,941 million bushels of corn was 116 million smaller than the 1950 crop, and of poorer quality. With the carry-over of corn also less than last year, the total supply is down 233 million bushels or 6 percent. Meanwhile, production of almost all kinds of livestock has increased in the past year, so that competition for the corn supply is greater. As a consequence, the price of corn has been about 25 cents per bushel higher this fall than last.

Table 1.- Sows farrowed, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States, by regions, average 1937-41, by years 1945 to date

Year	North Atlantic	North Central		South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
		East	West				
Spring Pig Crop							
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
				Sows farrowed			
1937-41 av.	140	2,016	3,417	580	1,069	312	7,534
1945	158	2,129	4,111	620	1,024	260	8,302
1946	148	2,169	3,861	630	1,017	252	8,077
1947	159	2,311	4,230	639	979	230	8,548
1948	153	2,111	3,718	608	987	256	7,833
1949	165	2,394	4,319	633	1,053	256	8,820
1950	145	2,554	4,568	631	1,048	228	9,174
1951 1/	153	2,625	4,842	683	1,029	249	9,581
1952 2/	162	2,508	4,291	702	903	228	8,794
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	886	12,961	21,472	3,377	6,157	1,948	46,801
1945	1,027	14,176	25,756	3,635	6,003	1,619	52,216
1946	998	14,559	25,226	3,732	6,073	1,603	52,191
1947	1,029	14,265	25,812	3,790	5,857	1,446	52,199
1948	1,010	14,052	24,062	3,714	6,030	1,600	50,468
1949	1,107	15,909	27,835	3,909	6,570	1,639	56,969
1950	920	16,177	28,905	3,971	6,534	1,428	57,935
1951 1/	1,032	17,238	31,381	4,273	6,446	1,587	61,957
1952 2/							56,500
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.32	6.45	6.30	5.82	5.76	6.24	6.22
1945	6.48	6.66	6.26	5.87	5.86	6.22	6.29
1946	6.76	6.71	6.53	5.92	5.97	6.35	6.46
1947	6.48	6.17	6.10	5.93	5.98	6.27	6.11
1948	6.58	6.65	6.47	6.11	6.11	6.26	6.44
1949	6.73	6.65	6.44	6.17	6.24	6.39	6.46
1950	6.36	6.33	6.33	6.29	6.23	6.26	6.31
1951 1/	6.74	6.57	6.48	6.26	6.26	6.38	6.47
Fall Pig Crop							
				Sows farrowed			
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1937-41 av.	127	1,471	1,480	507	963	254	4,802
1945	142	1,705	1,848	558	976	200	5,429
1946	121	1,515	1,447	585	877	159	4,704
1947	121	1,557	1,530	583	901	174	4,866
1948	126	1,609	1,690	551	904	190	5,070
1949	123	1,800	1,941	565	951	188	5,568
1950	119	1,970	2,183	561	924	166	5,923
1951 1/	126	2,015	2,269	611	879	189	6,089
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	844	9,756	9,400	3,051	5,769	1,608	30,428
1945	937	11,224	11,761	3,401	6,007	1,281	34,611
1946	818	10,194	9,578	3,578	5,348	987	30,503
1947	831	10,199	9,732	3,584	5,627	1,117	31,090
1948	865	10,917	11,184	3,452	5,717	1,223	33,358
1949	831	11,925	12,694	3,531	6,059	1,235	36,275
1950	815	13,289	14,674	3,552	5,998	1,076	39,404
1951 1/	872	13,508	14,899	3,975	5,704	1,224	40,182
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.63	6.63	6.34	6.02	5.99	6.31	6.33
1945	6.57	6.58	6.36	6.10	6.15	6.41	6.38
1946	6.72	6.73	6.62	6.12	6.10	6.23	6.49
1947	6.82	6.55	6.36	6.14	6.25	6.45	6.39
1948	6.88	6.78	6.62	6.27	6.32	6.43	6.58
1949	6.77	6.62	6.54	6.25	6.37	6.55	6.52
1950	6.83	6.74	6.72	6.33	6.49	6.50	6.65
1951 1/	6.92	6.70	6.57	6.51	6.49	6.47	6.60

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of December 1, 1951 Average (1940-49) number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

Revised December 1, 1951.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, spring and fall season, United States, average 1937-41 and by years 1945 to date

	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total
	Number, spring season						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	290	409	791	1,999	2,605	1,440	7,534
1945	311	378	700	2,024	3,004	1,885	8,302
1946	293	354	701	2,128	2,952	1,649	8,077
1947	293	381	900	2,452	3,035	1,487	8,548
1948	254	350	746	2,122	2,838	1,523	7,833
1949	283	441	958	2,567	3,026	1,545	8,820
1950	249	416	1,089	2,803	3,084	1,533	9,174
1951	288	493	1,237	2,748	3,098	1,717	9,581
1952 2/							8,794
	Percentage, spring season						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	3.9	5.4	10.5	26.5	34.6	19.1	100.0
1945	3.7	4.6	8.4	24.4	36.2	22.7	100.0
1946	3.6	4.4	8.7	26.3	36.6	20.4	100.0
1947	3.4	4.5	10.5	28.7	35.5	17.4	100.0
1948	3.2	4.5	9.5	27.1	36.2	19.5	100.0
1949	3.2	5.0	10.9	29.1	34.3	17.5	100.0
1950	2.7	4.5	11.9	30.6	33.6	16.7	100.0
1951	3.0	5.2	12.9	28.7	32.3	17.9	100.0
	Number, fall season						
	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	546	510	879	1,483	939	445	4,802
1945	778	598	1,024	1,662	974	393	5,429
1946	667	522	871	1,449	820	375	4,704
1947	640	552	1,000	1,501	833	340	4,866
1948	727	570	985	1,525	871	392	5,070
1949	731	618	1,172	1,760	901	386	5,568
1950	710	610	1,285	1,891	1,004	423	5,923
1951	824	680	1,364	1,845	996	380	6,089
	Percentage, fall season						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	11.4	10.6	18.3	30.9	19.5	9.3	100.0
1945	14.3	11.0	18.9	30.6	18.0	7.2	100.0
1946	14.2	11.1	18.5	30.8	17.4	8.0	100.0
1947	13.2	11.3	20.6	30.8	17.1	7.0	100.0
1948	14.3	11.3	19.4	30.1	17.2	7.7	100.0
1949	13.1	11.1	21.1	31.6	16.2	6.9	100.0
1950	12.0	10.3	21.7	31.9	17.0	7.1	100.0
1951	13.5	11.2	22.4	30.3	16.4	6.2	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.
2/ Spring farrowings indicated from breeding intentions report.

Revised December 1, 1951.

On the other hand, the price of hogs during the last several months has been about the same as a year earlier, and the hog-corn price ratio has been lower than last year. In the 3 months October-December the United States ratio averaged 11.3. A year before it was 13.1, and the 40-year average for those months is 12.3.

1952 Pork Production to be a Little Smaller than 1951; Reduction in Last Half of Year

From September through November, commercial hog slaughter was approximately 10 percent larger than a year previously. The increase was somewhat less than 10 percent in Federally inspected plants and somewhat more in other commercial plants, as a higher percentage of hog slaughter than a year earlier, as well as of cattle slaughter, has been in the non-inspected plants. Since the 1951 spring pig crop was up only 7 percent, the substantial early fall increase in slaughter reflected early farrowing dates and feeding out faster for market. Slaughter in December, the peak month of the year, was only a little larger than last December.

The large quantities of soft corn in the Western Corn Belt combined with a rather small price discount for heavy hogs may have caused some producers to delay marketings until after the first of 1952. Data on farrowings by months indicate that more pigs were born last May-July than a year before. Hence, slaughter of hogs in early months of 1952 may be a little greater than a year earlier. The increase will probably be less than in the season to date.

Prospects are that by next summer slaughter of hogs and production of pork will drop below the same periods of 1951. Barrow and gilt slaughter at that season may be up slightly because of the 2 percent larger fall pig crop, but the number of sows slaughtered will be down from last year because of the fewer farrowing during the spring.

Beginning about late summer or early fall, production of pork will be considerably below the corresponding 1951 level because of the smaller 1952 spring pig crop.

The reduction in pork supply late in 1952 compared with 1951 will probably more than offset the small gain during the earlier months. The year's pork production will probably total a little smaller than 1951 production. Despite an increase in imports that may amount to ½ pound or more per person, pork consumption may be down to 70 pounds or less per person from the 73 now estimated for 1951.

Production of Beef to Increase

The prospective trend in slaughter of cattle and production of beef for 1952 is about opposite to that for pork. Slaughter of grain fed cattle has been fairly close to last year. Since as many or more cattle are on feed this winter than last the number slaughtered in the next few months will probably average at least as large as a year before. Cattle slaughter may be up considerably next summer from the very small slaughter last summer and will probably continue higher the rest of the year.

The larger cattle slaughter in prospect for 1952 will result from the increase in numbers of cattle on farms, which are now a record. However, the shorter supply and higher price of corn may tend to restrict the number of cattle going on feed in months ahead. Thus, a smaller percentage of the total slaughter in 1952 may be of the top grades of grain fed cattle than in 1951. Average weights for all cattle slaughtered are likely to be somewhat lighter than in 1951.

Moreover, it now appears that cattle numbers have not risen quite so much as had been reported in official estimates. Data from the Census of 1950 indicate that reported cattle numbers for that year were overstated by 2 to 2½ percent. This downward revision, which will be incorporated in the report of numbers to be made in February, lowers somewhat the prospective size of the increase in cattle slaughter.

Cattle slaughter may rise enough in 1952 to provide 2 to 4 pounds more beef per person than the approximately 58 pounds consumed in 1951.

Production of lamb and mutton is also expected to increase in 1952. Slaughter of lambs, like that of cattle, was reduced in 1951 as numbers on farms were expanded. Most of the increase in slaughter likely in 1952 will come in the latter part of the year. In early months, sheep and lamb slaughter will about equal that of a year before, as lamb feeding this winter is apparently up only moderately from last winter.

1952 Total Meat Production to be Moderately larger than 1951

Indications are that total meat production in 1952 may be enough larger than in 1951 to allow consumption per person to rise somewhat from the 140 pounds estimated for 1951. However, the chances are less promising than formerly for the 1948-50 level of 144 pounds per person to be regained.

Consumption of meat per person in the first quarter may be little if any larger than the 35.6 pounds consumed in the same quarter of 1951. Consumption in the second and third quarters may be as much as 1 to 2 pounds per person larger than in the same 1951 quarters. (table 3)

Beef and veal will probably provide an increasingly larger part of the total meat supply in 1952 compared with 1951. This shift in composition of the meat supply will probably continue beyond 1952. It will result in a more normal ratio among meats. In 1951, pork was a larger percentage of the total supply than it had been in 7 years.

Hog Prices to Rise Seasonally; Marketing Margins Wider

Prices of hogs moved to a low in December after a seasonal reduction that began earlier than usual but was a little less than the average percentage decline. Prices are expected to rise seasonally until late February or early March. After that a moderate seasonal decline may occur. The total seasonal advance this winter may be a little less than last winter, when it was greater than usual. However, prices this spring may be fully as high or a little higher than last spring.

Table 3. - Meat consumption per person by years, 1940-48 and by quarter years, 1949 to date

Period	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork 1/	Total
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1940	54.7	7.4	6.6	73.0	141.7
1941	60.5	7.6	6.8	67.9	142.8
1942	60.8	8.2	7.2	63.3	139.5
1943	52.9	8.2	6.4	78.5	146.0
1944	55.3	12.4	6.6	79.2	153.5
1945	59.0	11.8	7.3	66.3	144.4
1946	61.3	9.9	6.6	75.6	153.4
1947	69.1	10.7	5.4	69.8	155.0
1948	62.6	9.4	5.0	68.4	145.4
1949					
Jan.-Mar.	16.0	2.0	1.2	17.9	37.1
Apr.-June	16.0	2.0	0.8	16.1	34.9
July-Sept.	16.4	2.4	1.0	14.8	34.6
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	2.3	1.1	18.8	37.3
Year	63.5	8.7	4.1	67.6	143.9
1950					
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	1.9	1.0	18.5	37.0
Apr.-June	15.7	1.9	1.0	16.6	35.2
July-Sept.	15.9	2.1	1.0	15.0	34.0
Oct.-Dec.	15.8	2.0	1.0	18.7	37.5
Year	63.0	7.9	4.0	68.8	143.7
1951					
Jan.-Mar.	14.6	1.6	0.9	18.5	35.6
Apr.-June	13.3	1.5	0.8	17.3	32.9
July-Sept.	14.3	1.8	0.8	16.4	33.3
Oct.-Dec. 2/	---	---	---	---	38
Year 2/	---	---	---	---	140

1/ Excluding lard. 2/ Preliminary.

A factor in hog prices in recent months has been a somewhat wider marketing margin for pork than a year before. This margin is the difference, in dollars and cents, between the price of live hogs and the average price of the derived pork products. Although data on the margin are not entirely satisfactory, three standard series all show increased margins this past fall (table 4).

There is evidence that margins were narrowed somewhat at midsummer when hog marketings were seasonally small, and then increased more than they usually do as marketings expanded.

Just after the war, marketing margins on pork were unusually low compared with retail prices. They have increased slowly since that time and the increase in 1951 continued the upward trend. The ratio of margins to retail prices of pork is still less than the long-time average. It is characteristic of margins that they change slowly and that the changes have no close relationship to variations in retail prices of pork or prices of live hogs.

Table 4. - Selected series on marketing margins for pork, July to December, 1950 and 1951

Month	Live to wholesale margin, Market News data, Chicago, per 100 lbs. live hog 1/		Live-to-retail margin: Market News data, New York, per 100 lbs., live hog 2/		Live-to-retail margin: BAE data, 3/ United States, per lb. pork at retail	
	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
July	0.79	0.09	7.83	7.66	16.5	14.6
August	1.66	0.27	8.88	8.20	16.2	15.8
September	1.80	1.22	10.35	9.89	18.2	17.0
October	1.29	0.48	10.42	9.15	17.3	16.1
November	1.44	1.26	10.54	9.97	---	16.5
December	4/1.53	2.03	---	---	---	16.9

1/ Price of 72.74 lbs. pork products, fresh basis, at wholesale compared with price per 100 lbs. of 200-220 lb. barrows and gilts. No credit given for value of by-products.
2/ Price of 60.37 lbs. of pork products at retail compared with price per 100 lbs. of 220-240 lb. barrows and gilts. No credit given for value of byproducts.
3/ Price of 1 lb. of pork products at retail compared with price for 1.41 lbs. live hog (basis U. S. average price for all hogs, including sows).
4/ Average for first 2 weeks.

Cattle Prices Likely to Change Little

Prices of the better grades of slaughter steers and heifers have dropped $1.00 to $2.50 per 100 pounds to just below their level of last summer. Special compliance relief by the Office of Price Stabilization for low-volume slaughterers and other factors had resulted in some rise during early fall. Prices of cows also declined moderately late in 1951.

The supplies of cattle in prospect do not point to any general weakness in cattle prices. However, it seems fairly certain that prices will not repeat the marked mid-winter rise that took place a year ago. Price strength is more likely for cows and lower-grade steers and heifers than for the better grades of fed cattle. Some further seasonal decline in prices of the top grades may occur.

Prices of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City have declined $2.00 to $3.00 per 100 pounds since early fall, and prices of stocker and feeder steer calves have fallen about $3.00. A seasonally larger supply partly explains the lower prices but less optimism on long-term feeding prospects may also have been involved.

Lamb Prices Lower;
May Rise Seasonally

Prices of lambs in December were lowest of the year, about $1.00 per hundred pounds below the level they held in late summer and early fall. Prices are now about the same as at this time last winter.

Some advance in prices of lambs may occur, due largely to the greater value of the heavier pelt. But prices are not expected to reach their peaks of last March.

Beef Set-Aside for Military

On November 30 the Office of Price Stabilization issued two regulations, Distribution Regulation 3 and Supplement thereto, requiring Federally inspected slaughterers to make deliveries of beef pursuant to military orders in certain circumstances. This is the first mandatory set-aside under present controls. For each accounting period beginning after October 27, slaughterers are required to fill military orders for the 3 top grades of beef to the extent that their slaughter of all beef the preceding month exceeded by 25,000 pounds or more a specified percentage -- first set at 100 percent -- of their kill in the same month of 1950. This beef set aside for military purchases must be offered at no premium above ceiling prices. It may be in the form of carcasses, hindquarters, or boneless beef.

Dollars-and-Cents Ceilings Set for Veal

Early in December, dollars-and-cents ceilings were announced for wholesale sales of veal. The regulation, Ceiling Price Regulation 101, follows the same general pattern as previous regulations on other meats in that it sets up ceiling prices for carcasses and cuts by geographic zone together with specified allowances for certain services.

With the issuance of this regulation on veal all major meat items have specific dollars-and-cents ceilings for sales at wholesale. Specific retail ceilings have been established for beef. Retail prices for most pork, veal, lamb, and mutton are limited by restrictions on mark-ups from wholesale ceilings. The Office of Price Stabilization has indicated that it would soon issue dollars-and-cents ceilings for sale of these meats at retail. Ceiling prices for canned and processed meats continue to be based on the prices in effect December 19, 1950 to January 25, 1951 plus certain increases in costs.

New Grades Proposed for Barrows and Gilts

New grade standards for slaughter barrows and gilts and for their carcasses have been proposed by the Production and Marketing Administration of USDA. The new grades are intended to provide a more accurate way of determining the market value for hogs. The proposed grades are Choice No. 1, Choice No. 2, Choice No. 3, Medium and Cull. These grades are based on the quality of pork and on the relative proportion of lean cuts to fat. All choice grade hogs and carcasses would yield high quality pork cuts. Choice No. 1 would have a relatively high ratio of lean to fat. Choice No. 2 and 3 would carry more fat. Medium and cull would be subject to discount for poor quality because of underfinish.

The grade standards were set up after several years of study on carcass values and on correlations between characteristics of live hogs and the quality of carcass produced. Tentative grades for slaughter hogs were developed by USDA and have been in use for some years. It is felt that neither these grades nor the practice of selling primarily by weight groups adequately recognizes the extent to which finish determines the yield or the quality of pork produced. Moreover, the proportion of lean meat in a carcass has been of increasing importance as consumers have shown an increasing preference for lean over fat pork.

Table 5.- Number of pigs saved and hogs slaughtered, 1930-51 and forecast for 1952

(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Number pigs saved: Spring 1/	Fall	Year	Number hogs slaughtered 2/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1930	49,332	24,803	74,135	67,272
1931	53,984	29,192	83,176	69,233
1932	51,031	31,494	82,525	71,425
1933	53,460	30,740	84,200	5/ 79,681
1934	39,698	17,068	56,766	68,760
1935	32,884	23,260	56,144	46,011
1936	41,422	24,303	65,725	58,730
1937	38,525	23,994	62,519	53,715
1938	43,289	28,566	71,855	58,927
1939	53,238	33,714	86,952	66,561
1940	49,584	30,282	79,866	77,610
1941	49,368	35,584	84,952	71,397
1942	61,093	43,810	104,903	78,547
1943	74,223	47,584	121,807	95,226
1944	55,754	30,905	86,659	98,068
1945	52,216	34,611	86,827	71,891
1946	52,191	30,503	82,694	76,244
1947	52,199	31,090	83,289	74,710
1948	50,468	33,358	83,826	71,936
1949	56,969	36,275	93,244	75,293
1950	57,935	39,404	97,339	79,488
1951 3/	61,957	40,182	102,139	86,000
1952 4/	56,500	---	---	84,000

1/ Begins December of preceding year.
2/ Total slaughter, including farm.
3/ Preliminary.
4/ Spring pig crop based on intentions. Slaughter forecast.
5/ Includes slaughter for Government account in drought programs.

CATTLE SLAUGHTER IN RELATION TO NUMBERS ON FARMS

By Harold F. Breimyer

In 1947, when 81 million cattle were reported on farms January 1, 36 million head were slaughtered. In 1951 the number on farms was up to 84 million but slaughter was only $26\frac{1}{2}$ million 1/. Over a long period of time the number of cattle slaughtered is closely related to the level of numbers on farms, but in the short run it corresponds more to the changes taking place in numbers during each year.

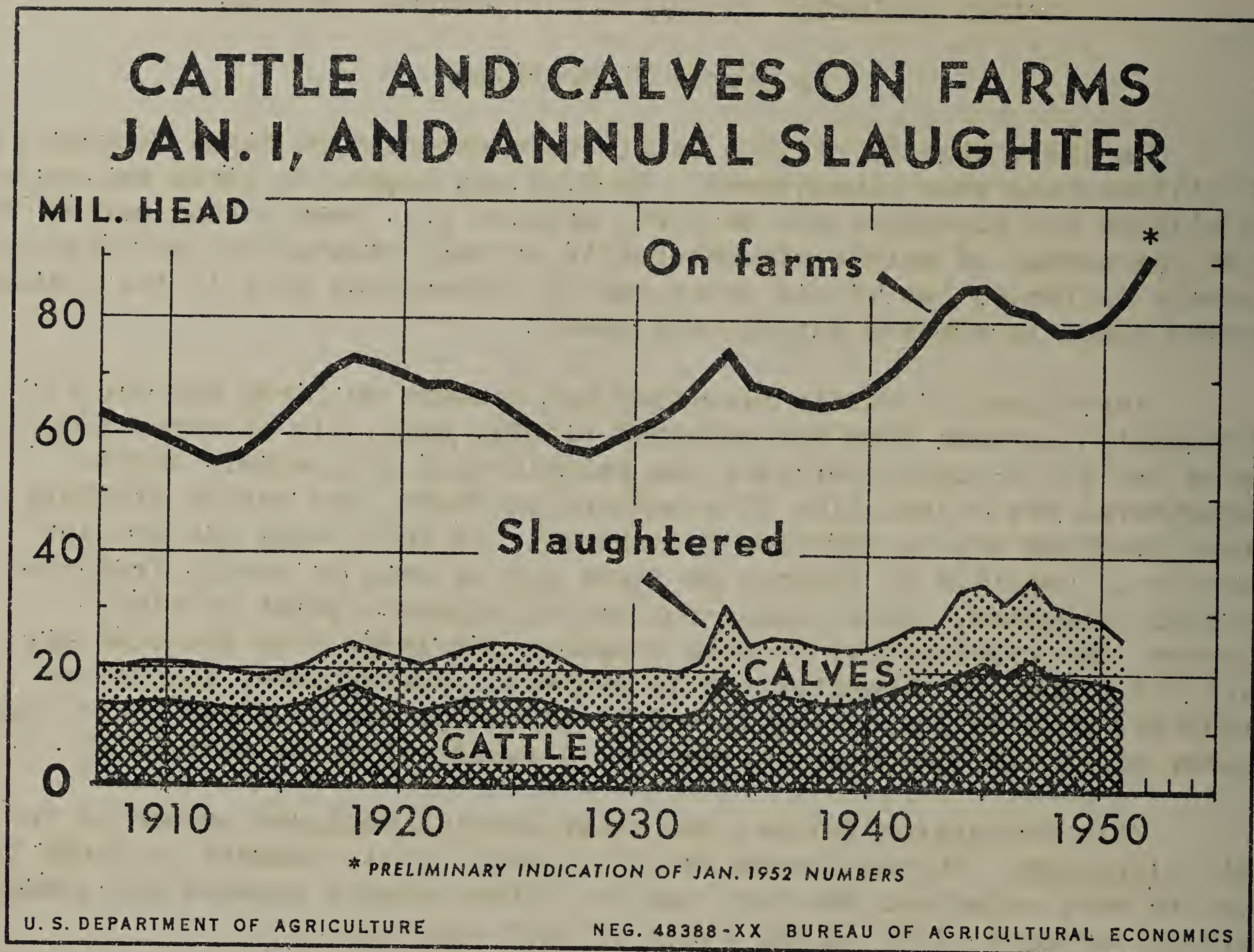
Variations in cattle slaughter and numbers on farms and the relationships between them are examined briefly here. In an accounting sense and for a particular year the relationship is simple: cattle slaughtered are a deduction from numbers on farms, and cattle withheld from slaughter are an addition to numbers. In this sense the net deduction or addition to numbers on farms may be said to result from the size of slaughter. In a longer-run and an economic point of view, however, the relationship is more complex, involving both longtime and cyclical trends in slaughter and in numbers. Furthermore, insofar as producers make deliberate decisions to expand or reduce their herds, the number of cattle slaughtered stands as a result of those decisions.

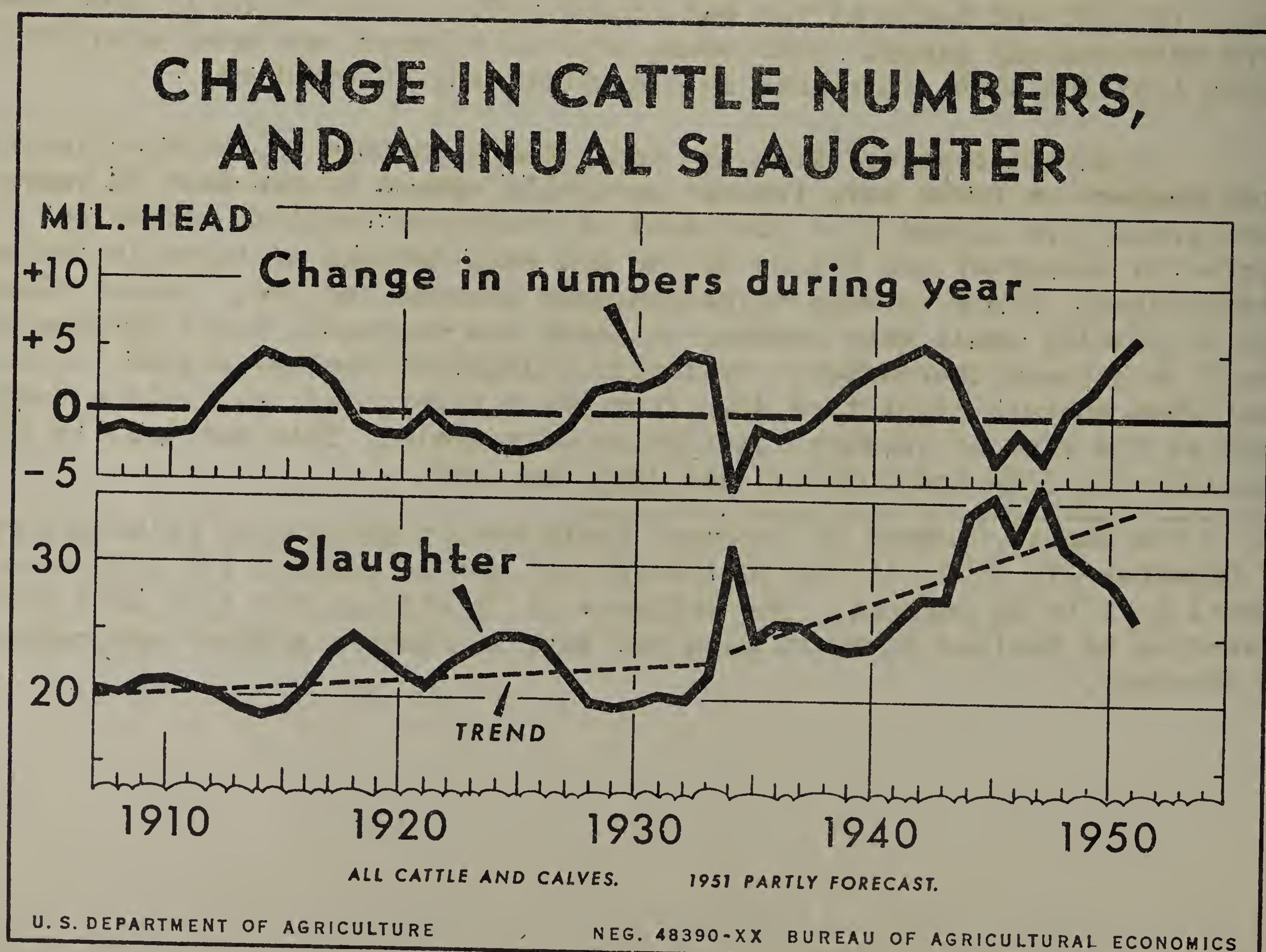
This discussion follows two other special analyses presented in this Situation. In the September 1951 issue, cattle numbers on farms by regions were noted and charted, and in October annual numbers and slaughter were projected to 1955 on the basis of past experience.

Big changes in the number of cattle and calves slaughtred are not new. In 1921 and again at the end of the 1920's, reductions in slaughter were particularly large. Over spans of 2 to 4 years beginning with 1916, 1922, 1933 and 1944, increases in slaughter were substantial.

As may be observed from the upper chart on page 14 cattle slaughter and numbers on farms have trended gradually upward in the last 50 years. Both trends are marked by a good deal of short-run cyclical variation. Cycles in slaughter are not so smooth and well defined as those in numbers. Nevertheless, there is much correspondence between the two. Annual slaughter is usually small when numbers on farms are beginning their upswing and for 2 or 3 years thereafter. Typically, slaughter reaches a peak in the year when numbers first turn down from their high point, and hits a second peak at the time of fastest liquidation of numbers. This was true in 1918 and 1924-25; 1934 and 1936-37; and 1945 and 1947.

1/ In the Annual Summary of Acreage, Yield and Production of Principal Crops of December 17, 1951, it was indicated that cattle numbers for 1950 were overstated by 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ percent. The estimate of 84 million for 1951 will probably therefore be revised downward when new data on January numbers are released in February.


CATTLE AND CALVES ON FARMS
JAN. 1, AND ANNUAL SLAUGHTER
MIL. HEAD
On farms
*
80
60
40
Slaughtered
20
CALVES
CATTLE
0
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
* PRELIMINARY INDICATION OF JAN. 1952 NUMBERS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48388-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS


CHANGE IN CATTLE NUMBERS,
AND ANNUAL SLAUGHTER
MIL. HEAD
+10
Change in numbers during year
+5
0
-5
30
Slaughter
20
TREND
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
ALL CATTLE AND CALVES.
1951 PARTLY FORECAST.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48390-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The cyclical relationships between slaughter and numbers are seen best when the numbers are converted into the changes taking place from one January to the next. That the net additions or reductions in number vary a great deal from year to year is shown by the top line of the lower chart on page 14. Variations are much more irregular than would be suggested by the smoothly flowing cyclical trends in numbers on farms. During the continuous rise in numbers from 1937 to 1945, for instance, the actual addition in individual years was only 900 thousand head in 1937, was 4 million in 1942, and was a mere 200 thousand in 1944.

In general, a period of substantial increases in numbers on farms is associated with a period of slaughter less than its trend line; and successive reductions in numbers coincide with a large slaughter. However, near the end of a prolonged period of increase in numbers slaughter rises to or above its trend value because of the effect of the larger breeding herds and calf crops. And near the end of a prolonged decrease in numbers slaughter falls back to its trend line.

The trends in slaughter shown in the lower chart are fitted by free hand. They illustrate the faster growth in slaughter since the mid-30's than before.

Another way of indicating the factors associated with annual cattle and calf slaughter is by multiple correlation analysis. The number of cattle and calves slaughtered annually (x_1) was correlated with (1) the number on farms January 1 of each year (x_2), and (2) the changes in number on farms during each year, (x_3), both for 1907-50 and for the shorter 1924-50 period.

In the 1907-50 analysis a multiple R^2 of .83 was obtained, showing that of the original variation in cattle and calf slaughter from its 44-year average, 83 percent can be explained by the level of cattle numbers at the beginning of each year and by changes in numbers during each year.

Numbers on farms alone explained 76 percent of the variation in slaughter. Of the variation remaining unexplained by numbers alone, 29 percent was accounted for by changes in numbers each year. The level of January numbers predominates in such a 44-year analysis because of the strong uptrend in both numbers and slaughter.

In the analysis for the shorter 1924-50 period the following regression equation was obtained:

$$X_1 = -.44 + .42X_2 - .95X_3 + .98X_4$$

X_4 is the annual calf crop as a percent of cattle and calf numbers on farms January 1.

In this 27-year analysis changes in numbers on farms became much more important than they were in the longer analysis--they explained 71 percent of the variation in slaughter not accounted for by the level of numbers alone.

The shorter the period analyzed, the greater is the relative importance of changes in cattle numbers in explaining cattle slaughter.

For a strictly short-run analysis, a correlation can be applied to the data for the lower chart on page 14. When deviations of slaughter from its trend line are correlated with yearly changes in cattle numbers on farms, a regression is obtained with a b coefficient of -.76. The r^2 is .63. This shows that 63 percent of the short-run variation in cattle and calf slaughter from its trend is associated with changes in numbers on farms. That is, the relationship seen visually in the chart is 63 percent of a perfect relationship.

These statistical measures give emphasis to the importance of changes in cattle numbers on farms in explaining short-run fluctuations in slaughter. They show how slaughter in 1951 could be at a 10 year low, one-fourth less than 4 years earlier, even though numbers on farms at the beginning of the year were close to record high.

In explaining long-run trends in slaughter, where trends in numbers on farms are most significatn, the size of the calf crop can be included as a separate independent variable. The general tendency is for the calf crop to move up and down along with cattle numbers, and it is partly for this reason that trends in numbers bear a close relation to trends in slaughter. But over several decades the calf crop has increased in relation to numbers of all cattle and calves on farms as breeding cows have made up a rising proportion of all cattle on farms and the percentage calf crop (the number saved per 100 cows) has improved. The result is that slaughter has trended upward faster than numbers on farms. The average yearly increase in slaughter during the 1907-50 period was 1.1 percent. The yearly increase in numbers on farms was 2/3 of one percent.

In the 1924-50 analysis, 81 percent of the variation in slaughter not associated with cattle numbers on farms and changes in numbers was accounted for by the size of the calf crop, as expressed as a ratio to numbers.

Table 6.- Number of cattle and calves on farms Jan. 1 and annual slaughter 1907-1951

(Data for charts on page 14)

	Number cattle and calves on farms January 1	Change in numbers during year	Number slaughtered during year 1/ Cattle	Calves	Cattle and Calves
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1907	63,754	-1,765	13,886	6,395	20,281
1908	61,989	-1,215	13,569	6,546	20,115
1909	60,774	-1,781	14,135	6,864	20,999
1910	58,993	-1,768	14,140	6,917	21,057
1911	57,225	-1,550	13,817	6,855	20,672
1912	55,675	917	13,386	6,828	20,214
1913	56,592	2,869	12,939	6,305	19,244
1914	59,461	4,388	12,676	5,927	18,603
1915	63,849	3,589	12,901	6,054	18,955
1916	67,438	3,541	13,793	6,628	20,421
1917	70,979	2,061	15,741	7,372	23,113
1918	73,040	- 946	17,093	7,485	24,578
1919	72,094	-1,694	15,027	8,201	23,228
1920	70,400	-1,686	13,470	8,481	21,951
1921	68,714	81	12,428	8,394	20,822
1922	68,795	-1,249	13,706	8,832	22,538
1923	67,546	-1,550	14,283	9,327	23,610
1924	65,996	-2,623	14,750	9,804	24,554
1925	63,373	-2,797	14,704	9,936	24,640
1926	60,576	-2,398	14,766	9,369	24,135
1927	58,178	- 856	13,413	8,478	21,891
1928	57,322	1,555	12,028	7,651	19,679
1929	58,877	2,126	12,038	7,406	19,444
1930	61,003	2,027	12,056	7,761	19,817
1931	63,030	2,771	12,096	8,057	20,153
1932	65,801	4,479	11,980	7,970	19,950
1933	70,280	4,089	13,107	8,564	21,671
1934	74,369	-5,523	5/ 19,509	5/ 11,759	5/ 31,268
1935	68,846	- 999	5/ 14,805	5/ 9,632	5/ 24,437
1936	67,847	-1,749	5/ 15,901	10,008	5/ 25,909
1937	66,098	- 849	15,254	10,304	25,558
1938	65,249	780	14,822	9,306	24,128
1939	66,029	2,280	14,621	9,191	23,812
1940	68,309	3,446	14,958	9,089	24,047
1941	71,755	4,270	16,419	9,252	25,671
1942	76,025	5,179	18,033	9,718	27,751
1943	81,204	4,130	17,845	9,940	27,785
1944	85,334	239	19,844	14,242	34,086
1945	85,573	-3,139	21,691	13,645	35,336
1946	82,434	-1,227	19,824	12,168	31,992
1947	81,207	-3,081	22,393	13,695	36,088
1948	78,126	172	19,186	12,328	31,514
1949	78,298	1,754	18,789	11,345	30,134
1950 4/	80,052	4,127	18,642	10,435	29,077
1951 2/ 4/	84,179	6,000	17,300	8,900	26,200
1952 3/ 4/	90,000	---	---	---	---

1/ Total, including farm. 2/ Preliminary estimate.
3/ Forecast. 4/ Estimates of numbers for 1950 to date and perhaps earlier will be revised downward in the February numbers report.
5/ Includes slaughter for Government account in drought programs.

Digest of OPS and NPA Regulations Affecting Meat and Meat Animals

This list of regulations supplements those appearing in earlier issues of the Livestock and Meat Situation. These lists are compiled for the reference value they may have now and as a historical source in the future. Questions regarding the specific application of the regulations should be referred to the Agency administering them.

Regulations issued by the Office of Price Stabilization, Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Regulation 1 Amendment 8 Issued November 27, 1951 Effective November 23, 1951	Establishes cut-off date for slaughterer registrations, revises reporting requirements, and makes other minor changes.
Distribution Regulation 2 Amendment 4 Issued September 27, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Permits the keeping and handling of ungraded and unmarked beef which has been certified for home consumption by resident farm operators or livestock raisers. See CPR 26 Rev., Amdt. 1.
Distribution Regulation 3 Issued November 30, 1951 Effective December 5, 1951	Requires Federally inspected slaughterers to make beef available for military orders to the extent that their slaughter of cattle in an accounting period exceeds a specified percentage of the corresponding 1950 kill.
Distribution Regulation 3 Supplement 1 Issued November 30, 1951 Effective December 5, 1951	Sets the priority percentage referred to in DR 3 at 100 percent.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Amendment 20 Issued October 10, 1951 Effective October 15, 1951	Extends the parity pass-through provisions to agricultural commodities produced in the U.S. territories and possessions. See CPR 22, Amdt. 31.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 34 Revised Issued November 21, 1951 Effective November 26, 1951	Revises ceiling prices for manufacturers of fresh and semi-dry sausages containing beef and/or stuffed in sheep casings to reflect recent increases in wholesale beef ceilings and/or higher casing costs.

Continued

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 79 Issued November 8, 1951 Effective November 13, 1951	Sets up a formula for adjusting retail ceiling prices for veal, lamb and mutton in line with dollars-and-cents wholesale ceilings.
Ceiling Price Regulation 9 Amendment 4 Issued October 25, 1951 Effective October 30, 1951	Provides an additional method for sellers in U. S. territories and possessions for computing a single ceiling price for different cost inventories.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 9 Issued October 15, 1951 Effective October 20, 1951	Allows wholesalers who sell to institutions to use alternative business years in qualifying for special markups.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 31 Issued October 10, 1951 Effective October 15, 1951	Makes the parity pass-through provisions of CPR 22 applicable to agricultural commodities produced in the territories and possessions. See GCPR, Amdt. 20.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 33 Issued November 9, 1951 Effective November 9, 1951	Sets the mandatory effective date for CPR 22 at December 19, 1951.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 35 Issued December 5, 1951 Effective December 10, 1951	Eliminates the 15 day waiting period provided for in CPR 22 before putting new ceilings into effect.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 36 Issued December 13, 1951 Effective December 18, 1951	Changes the regulations under which manufacturers (of canned meat and dry sausage) may obtain adjustments in ceiling prices.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 2 Revision 1 Issued November 21, 1951 Effective November 26, 1951	Provides an alternative method for making ceiling price adjustments by using GCPR prices as a basis instead of base period prices required under CPR 22, SR 17.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 2 Revision 1, Amendment 1 Issued December 5, 1951 Effective December 5, 1951	Provides a simplified method for making the adjustments allowed in CPR 22, SR 2, Rev. 1.

Continued

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 22: Supplementary Regulation 15: Amendment 2 Issued November 1, 1951 Effective November 1, 1951	Changes the mandatory filing date for manufacturers of sterile canned meat and dry sausage from November 1 to December 15.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22: Supplementary Regulation 17: Issued November 9, 1951 Effective November 9, 1951	Provides for optional adjustments under Section 402 (d)(4) of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951. (Capehart Amendment).
Ceiling Price Regulation 22: Supplementary Regulation 18: Issued November 26, 1951 Effective November 26, 1951	Provides a simplified method for certain small manufacturers to use in making Capehart adjustments in their ceilings.
Ceiling Price Regulation 23: Amendment 4 Issued September 28, 1951 Effective September 28, 1951	Extends the exemption from compliance set forth in Amdt. 2 until November 4, and tightens compliance requirements of multiple plant operations.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24: Amendment 7 Issued December 6, 1951 Effective December 11, 1951	Makes miscellaneous changes including wholesale ceiling price adjustments among various beef cuts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25: Revised Issued September 27, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Revises ceiling prices of beef items sold at retail.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25: Revised Amendment 1 Issued October 23, 1951 Effective October 23, 1951	Changes 10 Idaho counties from beef retail pricing zone 2 to zone 1.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25: Revised Amendment 2 Issued November 6, 1951 Effective November 6, 1951	Revised ceiling prices for boneless beef brisket.
Ceiling Price Regulation 26: Revised Amendment 1 Issued September 27, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Permits the keeping of ungraded beef which has been certified for home consumption by resident farm operators or livestock raisers. See DR 2, Amdt. 4.
Ceiling Price Regulation 51: Amendment 1 Issued September 26, 1951 Effective September 26, 1951	Fixes the ceiling price for sales of live cattle and establishes dollars-and-cents beef ceiling prices at wholesale and retail in Puerto Rico.

- Continued

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 69 Revision 1 Issued November 16, 1951 Effective November 21, 1951	Establishes dollars-and-cents wholesale and retail ceiling prices for carcasses and cuts of "island" pork in Hawaii.
Ceiling Price Regulation 73 Amendment 1 Issued October 18, 1951 Effective October 23, 1951	Amends and corrects CPR 73. Adjusts the ceiling price for the sale of goats in St. Croix, Virgin Islands.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 1 Issued November 19, 1951 Effective November 24, 1951	Makes miscellaneous Amendments in CPR 74, mainly on dried pork and specialty pork products.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Issued November 8, 1951 Effective November 13, 1951	Sets up dollars-and-cents wholesale ceiling prices for lamb, yearling and mutton carcasses and cuts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Issued December 4, 1951 Effective December 12, 1951	Sets up dollars-and-cents wholesale ceiling prices for veal, including calf, carcassesa and cuts.
General Overriding Regulation 16 Amendment 1 Issued October 4, 1951 Effective October 4, 1951	Exempted Kansas City packers from live cattle ceiling compliance on September 5 and 6 due to rail embargo.
General Overriding Regulation 20 Issued November 28, 1951 Effective November 29, 1951	Provides a simplified method for certain small manufacturers to use in making adjustments under Section 402 (d) (4) of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1951.
General Overriding Regulation 21 Issued December 5, 1951 Effective December 10, 1951	Provides a method to use in making Capehart adjustments in ceiling prices. Does not apply if the ceiling price is governed by a regulation which has an adjustment procedure already in effect.
Regulation issued by the National Production Authority, Department of Commerce	
M-18, as amended October 8 Issued October 8, 1951 Effective October 8, 1951	Makes certain changes in the restrictions on the use of hog bristles in the manufacture of brushes.
M-29, Revocation Issued October 1, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Revokes M-29 (deerskins) and makes deerskins subject to the provisions of M-62.
M-62, as amended October 1 Issued October 1, 1951 Effective October 1, 1951	Amends M-62 to include sheepskin parts and deerskins.

Selected features, The Livestock and Meat Situation 1951 with issue dates

Cattle and calves:
- Cash Receipts- Feb., Apr.
- Deaths- Feb.
- Farm slaughter- Feb., May
- Federal grade standards- Jan., Feb.
- Feeding- Jan., Feb., Aug.
- Grades- Jan., Feb.
- Imports- Jan., Mar., Aug.
- Liveweight of slaughter- Feb., June
- Marketing- Feb.
- Market receipts by regions- June
- Number Jan. 1- Feb., Sept., Oct.
- Outlook- Oct.
- Price ceilings- May, June, Aug.
- Price margins in feeding cattle- Jan., Aug., Oct.
- Ratio of beef steer prices to lamb and hogs- Oct.
- Regional variation in number of cattle and calves on farms- Sept.
- Slaughter by classes,- Apr., May, June, Aug., Oct.
- Slaughter by regions- June
- Slaughter in relation to numbers on farms- Dec.
- Slaughter quotas- Feb., Apr., June, Aug.
- World numbers- Apr.

Feed:
- Balance sheet- Feb., July, Oct.
- Outlook- Oct.
- Planting intentions- Mar.

Hog and hog products:
- Cash receipts- Feb., Apr.
- Deaths- Feb.
- Grades- Dec.
- Hog-corn ratio- Feb., Mar., July, Sept.
- Hog numbers Jan. 1 and June 1.- Feb., June
- Hog prices by weights- Feb.
- Lard consumption- Feb., May
- Lard Production- Feb., May
- Liveweight of production- Feb., Apr.
- Marketing margin- Jan., Dec.
- Marketings- Feb., Apr.
- Market receipts by regions- June
- Outlook- Oct.

Indexes of other years may be found in December issues beginning 1945.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov. 1950	Jan.-Nov. 1951	1950 Nov.	1951 Sept.	1951 Oct.	1951 Nov.
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	32.49	38.66	33.10	38.77	38.78	38.17
Choice	do.	29.28	36.09	31.24	36.68	36.31	36.09
Good	do.	26.67	33.36	28.15	33.73	33.25	33.03
Commercial	do.		30.80		30.82	30.29	30.18
Utility	do.	23.15	28.07	23.90	27.68	27.06	26.90
All grades	do.	28.80	35.83	31.41	36.99	36.75	36.29
Omaha, all grades	do.	27.53	34.35	30.06	35.59	34.78	34.45
Sioux City, all grades	do.	27.74	34.41	30.47	35.39	34.88	34.12
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	21.43	27.99	22.67	28.97	28.36	27.22
Utility	do.	18.86	24.65	20.46	24.63	24.31	22.96
Canner and Cutter	do.	16.31	21.05	17.82	20.98	20.40	18.63
Vealers, Choice and Prime	do.	30.93	37.30	32.30	36.25	37.16	35.90
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	26.32	33.08	28.46	31.90	31.97	31.63
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	22.92	29.05	24.60	29.50	29.00	28.10
Veal calves	do.	25.84	32.75	27.60	32.80	32.70	31.60
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	18.89	20.89	18.23	20.02	20.16	18.43
180-200 pounds	do.	19.47	21.58	18.47	20.69	20.57	18.72
200-220 pounds	do.	19.62	21.71	18.42	20.94	20.67	18.72
220-240 pounds	do.	19.55	21.63	18.33	20.99	20.68	18.70
240-270 pounds	do.	19.27	21.41	18.23	20.97	20.68	18.64
270-300 pounds	do.	18.85	20.96	18.16	20.52	20.46	18.43
All weights	do.	19.17	21.36	18.21	20.84	20.59	18.69
Seven markets 3/	do.	19.13	21.05	18.05	20.59	20.32	18.38
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.71	18.63	17.08	17.86	18.58	16.61
Price received by farmers	do.	18.25	20.48	17.80	19.70	20.30	18.00
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	13.1	12.0	11.5	11.6	11.5	10.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.8	12.6	13.0	11.9	12.4	11.1
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	12.37	17.84	15.47	14.71	15.15	13.67
Price received by farmers	do.	11.19	16.19	13.30	14.90	15.20	14.10
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	26.92	34.63	29.41	31.44	31.29	30.80
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	5/27.06	6/32.18	29.22	32.64	32.00	31.31
Price received by farmers	do.	24.59	31.41	26.80	29.80	29.80	29.00
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers							
(1910-14=100)		338	414	357	411	410	387
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	46.52	56.43	50.32	56.90	57.50	57.25
Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 pounds	do.	51.33	57.21	52.64	58.00	58.00	60.35
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	20.46	23.16	19.68	22.74	21.96	20.16
Average per 100 pounds	do.	28.09	31.80	27.02	31.22	30.15	27.68
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	23.75	26.20	23.18	26.86	26.45	23.53
Average per 100 pounds	do.	33.30	36.74	32.50	37.66	37.09	32.99
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	73.0	---	76.4	84.9	88.6	---
Lamb	do.	69.2	---	71.2	78.1	78.6	---
Pork, including lard	do.	40.6	---	41.2	45.6	45.5	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1926=100)		235.2	---	240.5	280.2	283.5	---
Retail (1935-39=100)		241.0	---	249.6	277.6	281.0	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Average of prices for January, February, March, August, September, October, and November.
6/ Average of prices for January, August, September, October, November.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov. 1950	Jan.-Nov. 1951	1950 Nov.	1951 Sept.	1951 Oct.	1951 Nov.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		146	149	184	162	203	190
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	2,891	3,156	485	515	893	460
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,663	3,390	238	703	822	305
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	11,993	10,881	1,151	956	1,140	1,122
Calves	do.	5,404	4,641	505	374	500	457
Sheep and lambs	do.	10,821	9,246	969	827	1,084	922
Hogs	do.	50,187	55,142	6,144	4,398	5,651	6,531
Percentage sows	Percent	16	---	9	14	8	7
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	986	991	998	970	973	990
Calves	do.	206	210	214	247	246	231
Sheep and lambs	do.	96	98	95	95	96	100
Hogs	do.	244	246	237	236	231	236
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	540	544	534	528	513	528
Veal, per head	do.	115	118	117	138	136	126
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	46	46	45	45	44	47
Pork, per head 2/	do.	136	136	134	132	127	131
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	56	56	55	55
Lard, per head	do.	35	36	33	34	33	34
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	14	15	14	14	14	14
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	6,448	5,885	611	502	581	588
Veal	do.	618	544	58	51	68	57
Lamb and mutton	do.	492	427	43	37	47	43
Pork 2/	do.	6,864	7,501	821	579	719	851
Lard	do.	1,767	1,978	201	150	185	221
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	16,420		1,556	1,375	1,602	
Calves	do.	9,228		844	666	836	
Sheep and lambs	do.	11,862		1,058	938	1,203	
Hogs	do.	60,542		7,249	5,368	6,824	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	8,475		794	698	790	
Veal	do.	1,055		98	87	106	
Lamb and mutton	do.	536		47	41	52	
Pork 2/	do.	8,189		966	701	870	
Lard	do.	2,024		227	174	212	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	95	94	95	125
Veal	do.	---	---	9	8	7	11
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	8	6	7	10
Pork	do.	---	---	220	402	326	276
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	405	605	522	499

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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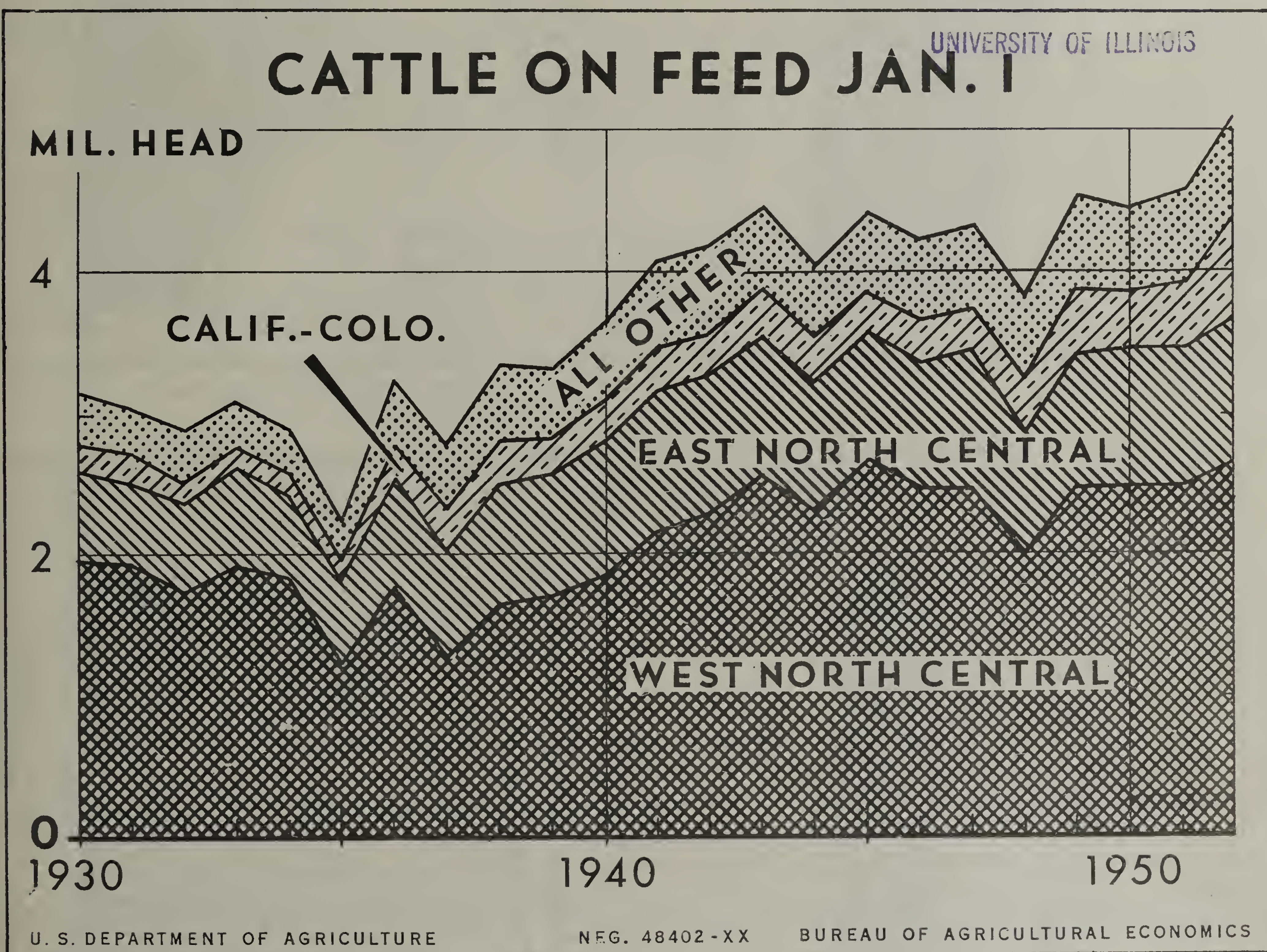
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-58 BAE JAN.- FEB. 1952

In this issue:
Statistical Appendix

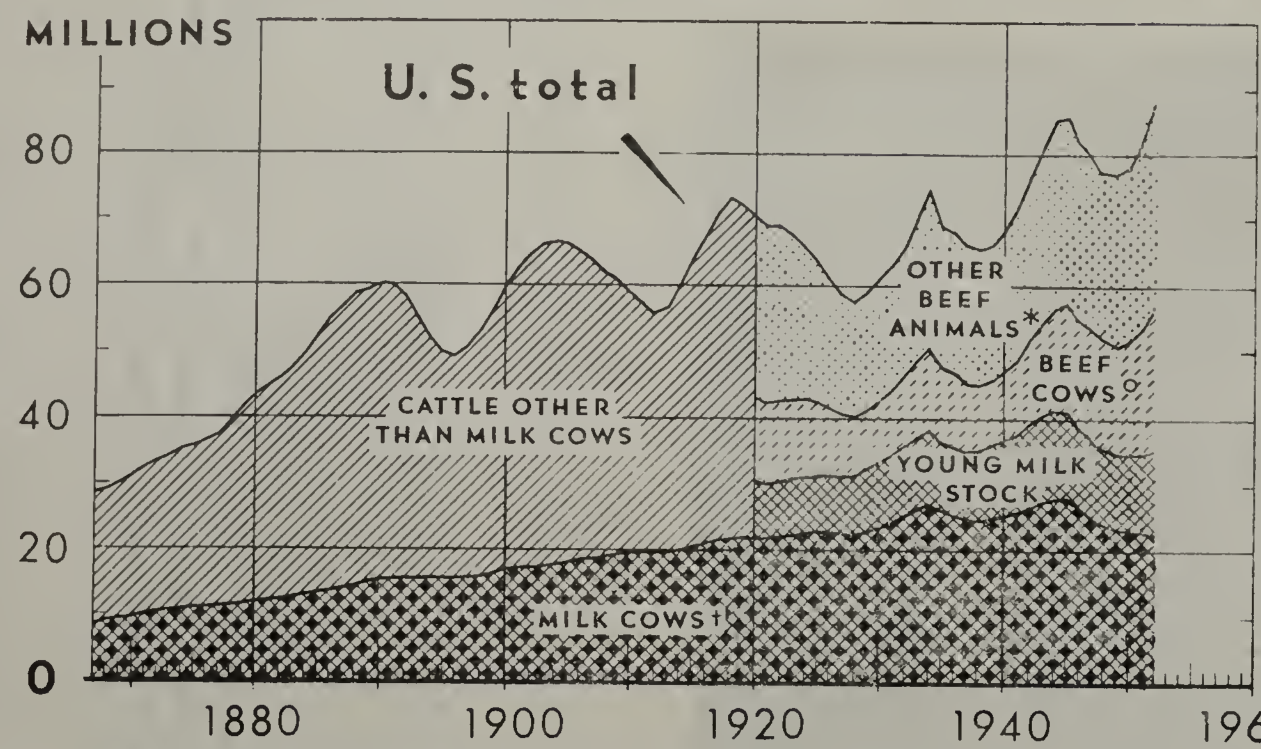


Cattle on feed for market numbered 5.1 million this January 1, 11 percent more than last January and a new record. Numbers were up 6 percent in the North Central States and 24 percent in the West. Colorado reported a gain of 31 percent and California, 60 percent.

Cattle feeding has shifted westward. In the last 10 years numbers on feed have increased 7 percent in the East North Central and 15 percent in the West North Central regions, but 85 percent in Colorado and 211 percent in California.

Movement of cattle to feedlots early this year apparently was down from a year before. This lower level of placements may continue for some time.

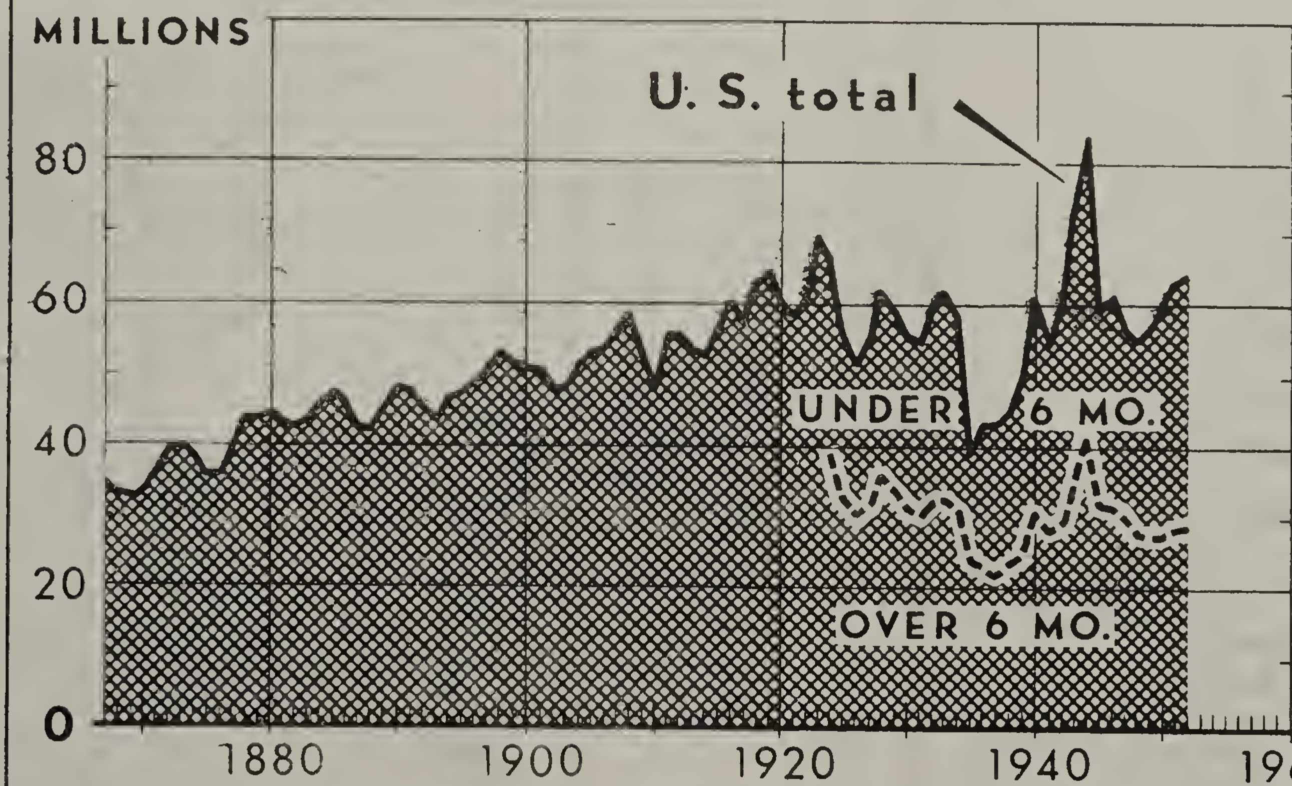
CATTLE ON FARMS JAN. 1



*HEIFERS & CALVES NOT FOR MILK, AND ALL STEERS & BULLS °2 YRS. & OLDER NOT FOR MILK
†COWS & HEIFERS 2 YRS. & OLDER FOR MILK DATA FOR 1952 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG 47147A XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

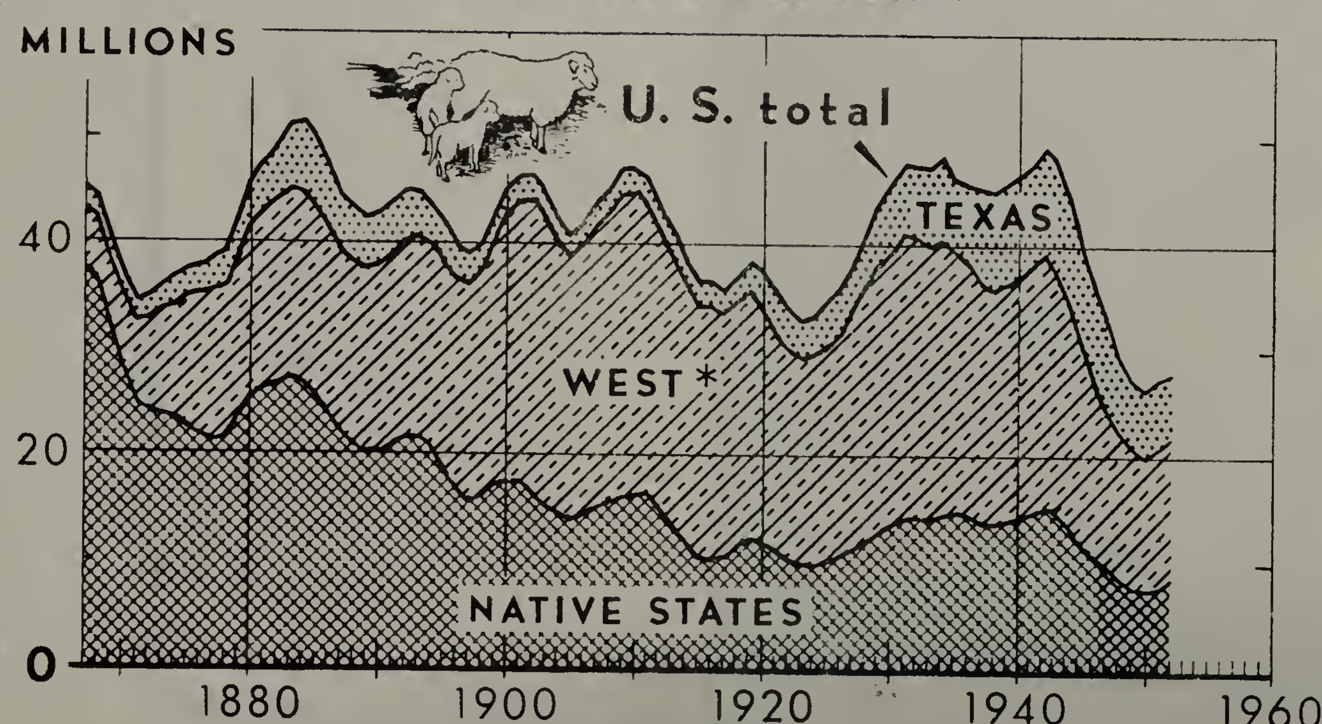
HOGS ON FARMS JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1952 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45116-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

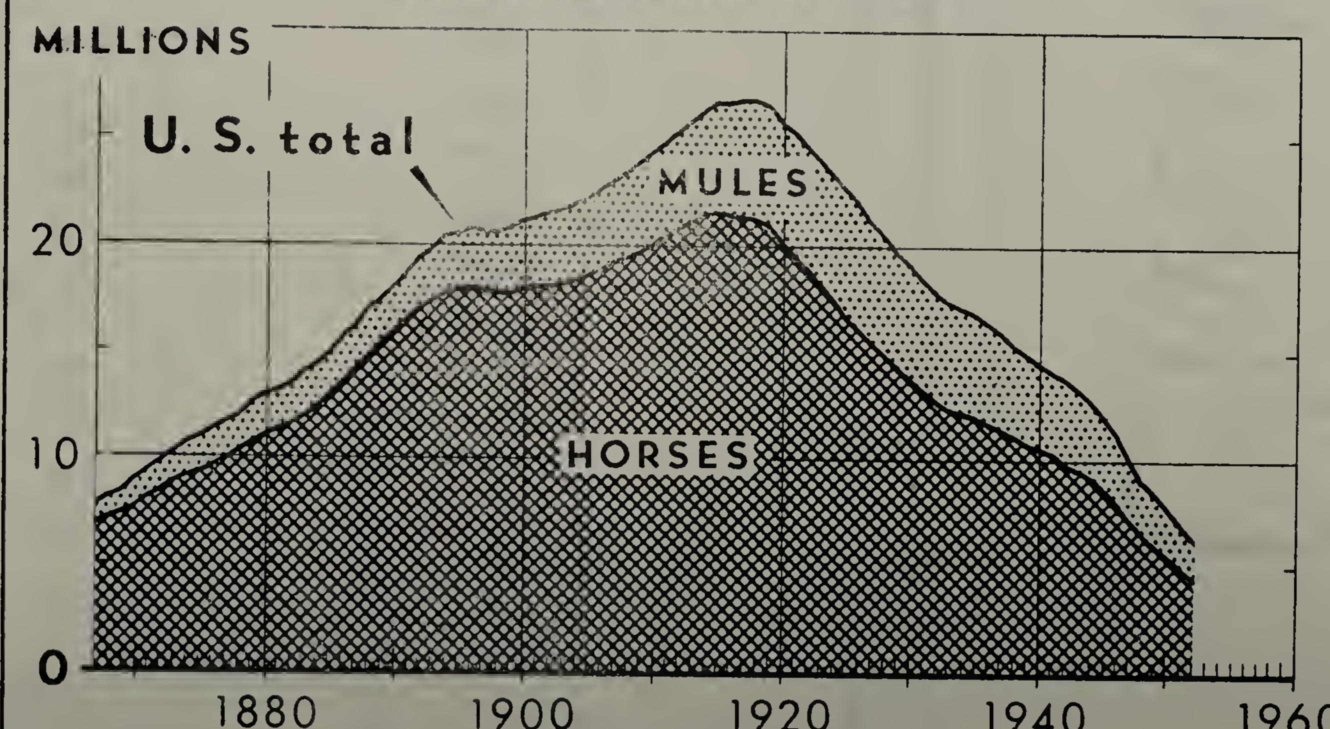
STOCK SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FARMS JAN. 1



*11 WESTERN STATES AND S. DAK DATA FOR 1952 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47391-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

HORSES AND MULES ON FARMS JAN. 1



DATA FOR 1952 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG 45117-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, February 21, 1952

SUMMARY

Prices for meat animals have been somewhat weaker this winter than last as demand for meat has leveled off in recent months and supplies have improved. As this situation is not likely to change much soon, about the usual seasonal price movements are expected for meat animals this spring. Prices for fed cattle may decline as marketings rise while price increases are more likely for lower grade cattle which will go on grass. Prices of hogs will probably advance. This summer they may reach the level of a year earlier.

The January 1 inventory of meat animals on farms supports the outlook that slaughter of cattle and calves will increase moderately in 1952, that slaughter of sheep and lambs will increase somewhat, and that slaughter of hogs in the first part of 1952 will be above a year earlier. In the second half of 1952 hog slaughter will be below 1951 because the 1952 spring pig crop is being reduced due to smaller feed supplies.

Total meat production for 1952 is expected to be moderately above 1951. It may be the largest since 1947 but smaller than in each year from 1943 through 1947. Most of the increase over 1951 will occur in the late winter and spring. At that time last year, production was unusually low. Consumption per person for all of 1952 is likely to be 2 or 3 pounds more than the 138 pounds of 1951.

The total number of meat animals on farms on January 1 was up 5 percent from January 1951 and was the third highest on record. The number of cattle and calves on farms this January was a record 88.1 million, 6 million head or 7 percent more than last January. The number of sheep and lambs, though still small, was 4 percent larger than a year ago. The number of hogs was up 2 percent over the previous January, reflecting chiefly a similar gain in pigs saved last fall than the previous fall.

In the three years since January 1949, the number of cattle has increased 11 million head or 15 percent. Noteworthy were the much faster expansion in beef than in milk cattle and the greater percentage increase in the South and the Western Corn Belt than elsewhere. The number of all cattle and calves for milk rose only about ½ million over the three years but the number of cattle for beef increased 10½ million head or 26 percent. The number of beef cows alone climbed from 15.9 million in January 1949 to 20.6 million this January, a new record.

Over the three years, numbers of all cattle and calves rose 22 percent in the South Atlantic, 18 percent in the South Central, 10 percent in the East North Central and 16 percent in the West North Central Regions. In the West, the rise was 13 percent and in the North Atlantic Region, only 5 percent.

Included in the cattle and calves on farms this January were 5.1 million head on feed, 11 percent more than a year earlier and a new high. About 15 percent more sheep and lambs were on feed this January than last, but the number was small compared with most earlier years.

The historical data on livestock numbers were recently revised back to 1945 on the basis of the Census of 1950 and other information.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Cattle Numbers Record High

The 88.1 million cattle and calves reported on farms January 1 were 6 million more than a year earlier. They were a new high, 2 1/2 million above the previous record established in 1945. The number has increased each year since 1949, but the gain in 1951 was the sharpest in the present upswing and was the largest increase ever registered in a single year. 1/

The recent expansion in cattle numbers is largely restricted to the beef classes. The number of all cattle and calves for milk increased only 1/4 million in 1951 and only a little over 1/2 million in the last 3 years. The number of beef cattle (cattle other than for milk) hit a new peak this January, 26 percent above 3 years earlier. The number of beef cows led all classes in the rate of increase over the 3 years. The 20.6 million on hand this January were 30 percent more than in January 1949.

Both dairy and beef cattle numbers had previously declined from peaks of the mid-1940's until 1948 when the current upturn began, with dairy cattle showing the sharper reduction. As the recent increase in cattle numbers was largely in beef cattle, a very substantial shift from dairy to beef cattle has occurred. The 35.9 million cattle and calves for milk on farms this January were 5.4 million below the record 41.3 million set for those classes in 1944. The 52.2 million beef cattle were up 7.5 million from 1945. A similar shift was reported in cows. The number of all cows this January was about the same as in 1945 but milk cows were down more than 4 million and beef cows had increased by about the same number.

The South Atlantic, South Central and West North Central regions led all others in the rate of expansion of cattle numbers in the last 3 years -- 22, 18, and 16 percent respectively. In the East North Central region the increase was 10 percent. In the West it was 13 percent and in the North Atlantic region only 5 percent.

The recent expansion in the number of cattle resulted from strong demand and favorable prices; from shifts out of cash crops in some areas of the South; and from improvements in forage production in many areas. Moreover, the expansion resumes a long-run uptrend in cattle numbers that has been made possible to large extent by the decline in numbers of horses and mules on farms which has released increasing amounts of feed

1/ The increase in cattle numbers during 1951 was about as estimated last fall, but numbers this January were less than the 90 million expected because numbers for 1951 and previous years were revised downward in line with the 1950 Census.

and pasture for consumption by other livestock. From 1942 through 1949 declining numbers of sheep also increased the feed available to cattle.

If the pattern of previous cattle cycles is repeated, cattle numbers will continue upward about 3 more years, even though numbers are now at an all-time peak.

Cattle on Feed January 1 Also Record High

The 5.1 million cattle and calves reported this January 1 on feed for market were 11 percent more than the previous record in January last year. The increase was general throughout the United States, as only 4 States had fewer cattle on feed than last January. The greatest increase was in the West. California had 60 percent more on feed than a year before and the increase for the entire Western Region was 24 percent. The increase in the North Central Region was 6 percent.

Reports from the Corn Belt showed a higher proportion of heavy-weight cattle on feed this January than last. Cattle weighing over 900 pounds made up 31 percent of the total, compared with 26 percent last year.

The increase in cattle on feed accounted in part for a rise of 20 percent over last year in the number of steers on farms. The 8.4 million steers reported this January were the most since 1923.

Numbers of Sheep and Lambs Up One Million

Numbers of sheep and lambs increased 1.1 million head in 1951. This was the second increase in a row, but the 31.7 million on hand this January were quite small compared with earlier years. Numbers declined steadily from a high of 56.2 million in January 1942 to a low of 29.8 million in January 1950.

The inventory this January included 15 percent more sheep and lambs on feed than a year before. Stock sheep were increased 588 thousand head or 2 percent.

The number of hogs also is above last year. About 2 percent more were reported on farms January 1 of this year than last. The increase reflected chiefly a similar increase in pigs farrowed last fall over the previous fall.

With the number of each class greater than last year, the index of numbers of all meat animals combined rose to 126 (1935-39=100), 6 points above last January, the highest since 1944 and the third highest on record (table 1).

Table 1.- Numbers of livestock on farms January 1, 1942 to date

Year	Numbers on farms: All cattle and calves	All sheep and lambs	Hogs	Horses and mules	Chickens	Index of numbers by groups, 1935-39 = 100: Total livestock and poultry	Meat animals	Milk animals	Poultry
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head				
1942	76,025	56,213	60,607	13,655	476,935	112	117	107	118
1943	81,204	55,150	73,881	13,231	542,047	120	128	111	132
1944	85,334	50,782	83,741	12,613	582,197	126	135	114	142
1945	85,573	46,520	59,373	11,950	516,497	117	125	113	127
1946	82,235	42,362	61,306	11,108	523,227	113	122	107	129
1947	80,554	37,498	56,810	10,129	467,217	108	117	105	114
1948	77,171	34,337	54,590	9,279	449,644	103	112	100	108
1949	76,830	30,943	56,257	8,498	430,876	102	112	98	105
1950	77,963	29,826	58,852	7,781	456,549	103	114	98	111
1951	82,025	30,635	62,852	7,067	442,657	106	120	98	108
1952	88,062	31,725	63,903	6,293	453,498	111	126	97	111

Cattle and Sheep Slaughter to Increase, Hog Slaughter to Decline Relative to 1951

Trends in slaughter of livestock for the next year or longer will largely follow the recent trends in numbers. Slaughter of cattle and of sheep in 1952 will likely exceed 1951. Slaughter of hogs will average a little above last year for a while but later will drop below 1951 due to a decline in numbers raised. The year's total hog slaughter is expected to fall a little below last year.

The large inventory of cattle--both in total and for steers and all fed cattle--points to an increase in cattle slaughter in 1952 over the relatively small slaughter of 1951. Present prospects are for the increase to be moderate. Slaughter will be less than current production, and the number of cattle on farms will show a further gain during 1952.

Much of the increase in cattle slaughter this year will consist of fed cattle marketed this winter and spring. Slaughter of fed cattle was larger than last year in January and February and will probably continue larger throughout most or all the spring.

In the last 2 or 3 months fewer cattle have gone on feed than a year before. Shorter supplies and higher prices of feed have been a factor in the reduced movement to feedlots. Less optimism regarding future trends for cattle prices may also have been an influence. However, the recovery of 2 to 3 dollars per 100 pounds in prices of feeder cattle the last 2 months suggests that feeders may have regained confidence. Also, numbers moving have been rising recently.

While fed cattle will provide most or all the increase over 1951 in cattle slaughter early in 1952, grass cattle will provide the gain later in the year. The extent of the increase in slaughter of grass cattle this fall will be determined by trends in cattle prices and by the size of the new corn crop. A large corn crop would boost the movements to feedlots and limit the increase in slaughter.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs was slightly below last year in January and slightly above in February. In months ahead slaughter will probably average a little larger than in 1951. The increase in sheep and lamb slaughter in prospect for 1952 would be the first since 1943. Slaughter in 1951 was the smallest in this century.

Hog slaughter is expected to average a little above 1951 until about mid-spring. Thereafter, it will be less than last year. This prospect is based on farrowings last fall. Until September, more sows had farrowed each month than a year before. Beginning in September, farrowings were down from the previous year. Moreover, farmers intended to reduce by 8 percent the number of sows farrowing this spring.

Slaughter of hogs this summer will probably be several percent less than last summer. A reduction is probable both for barrows and gilts and for sows slaughtered. By fall, hog slaughter will be considerably short of the corresponding 1951 slaughter. It will then reflect the reduction actually made in the number of spring pigs saved.

With moderately more cattle, slightly more sheep and lambs, and not quite so many hogs to be slaughtered in 1952 as in 1951, total meat production may rise by around 3 to 5 percent. Production at this indicated level would be the largest production since 1947 but less than in each year from 1943 through 1947. Consumption of all meat per person in 1952 promises to be 2 or 3 pounds more than the 138 pounds consumed in 1951.

Large Holdings of Meat in Cold Storage

Holdings of meat in cold storage on January 1 were the largest for the date since 1937 and on February 1 were the largest February holding since 1920. Stocks of pork on February 1 were 647 million pounds, 4 percent larger than a year before, and stocks of beef, at 234 million pounds, were up 46 percent. Freezer capacity, particularly freezer space in meat packing plants, was reported to be nearly filled on February 1.

Prices of Most Meat Animals to Average Lower than in 1951

Price trends for meat animals in the last several months have displayed a rather persistent though not pronounced weakness. This is in contrast with the rise in prices at this time last year. The usual seasonal gain for hogs did not appear in January and February. Prices of lambs slipped to their lowest since the fall of 1950.

Table 2.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, 1937-41 average, by years, 1947 to date

Period	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/	Disposable personal income per person	Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
	Cents	Dollars	Dollars	Percent
1937-41 av.	25.7	29.86	568	5.3
1947	56.2	75.34	1,169	6.4
1948	62.6	78.88	1,277	6.2
1949	56.8	70.74	1,243	5.7
1950	59.4	74.11	1,339	5.5
1951	65.8	79.25	1,436	5.5

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts.
2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each type of meat consumed per civilian consumer.
Compiled from appendix Table A-20.

Prices of cattle drifted downward from about last September to this January but the better grades have shown more stability since. The average price received by farmers for beef cattle in January was $2.30 per hundred pounds below the September price of $29.50. Since January 1 the average price of Choice slaughter steers at Chicago has varied between 34.50 and 35.00 dollars per hundred pounds.

The price trends are mainly a readjustment from the very high levels of 1951, which is occurring as demand apparently fails to strengthen further and the supply of meat both from current slaughter and from storage is more adequate. In addition to this general situation, the price of hogs was held down as the seasonally heavy run, which usually ends in late January, was prolonged until late February. Heavy lambs have been discounted sharply because of the large supply.

Prices for meat animals have also been weakened by lower by-product prices. A major cause for lower prices of lambs this winter is the much lower value of pelts and wool. In recent weeks No. 1 packer shearlings at Chicago have been quoted at about $3.00 each, only half the corresponding price a year earlier. Cattle hides were below year-earlier levels with some grades showing even greater proportional declines. Prices of lard and tallow have been substantially below a year earlier. However, the decline in lard prices has been moderated by a heavy demand for export.

In months ahead, the general average of cattle and sheep and lamb prices may remain a little below last year. However, the defense program is likely to maintain demand well enough to prevent any marked weakness in prices. Strengthening tendencies are most likely for hogs.

Approximately the usual seasonal movements are the most likely prospect for cattle prices this spring. Prices of the top grades may decline moderately. Prices of cows and lower grades of heifers and steers may rise somewhat in response to the seasonal demand for cattle to go on grass. However, the price gain for these classes may not be as great as usual and certainly less than early last spring. One reason is that supplies of grazing cattle probably will be larger this year. Also, prices of lower grade cattle have not dropped quite as far below prices of top grades this winter as in most winters; hence, there is less chance of their rising so much relative to top grades. Furthermore, it is typical of a period of scarcity and high prices, such as 1951, that the largest percentage increases occur in prices of lower grades. When the supply situation eases, prices of the lower grades decline most. This kind of reaction could mark the cattle price picture for 1952.

Reduced numbers of cattle going on feed now may result in material price gains for fed cattle this fall, after most of the cattle fed during the past winter have been marketed.

Prices of hogs are expected to climb rather steadily and this summer may reach the corresponding 1951 prices. Prices this fall may decline less than usual for that season and may average higher than last fall.

Prices of lambs in 1952 compared with 1951 will be affected by the slightly larger slaughter in prospect, by the lower average price for wool, and by lower prices for cattle. It is likely that lambs will average a little below the price of last year.

Demand for Meat Comparatively Steady, Ending Uptrend

Demand for meat appears to have been fairly steady for a number of months, ending the uptrend that began in the spring of 1950 and lasted until economic conditions leveled off early last fall. The comparative stability of economic activity and incomes since fall is the primary explanation of a similar stability in demand.

Demand for meat is very sensitive to changes in income. During an inflation, demand for meat tends to outrun income, and during the first stages of deflation it tends to fall sharply. Just after the end of World War II, for example, demand for meat was so strong that retail value of meat consumed in 1947 amounted to 6.4 percent of disposable personal income (table 2). By 1950 the percentage relationship had dropped to 5.5 and preliminary data indicate that it remained at that figure in 1951. The inflationary pressures the first half of last year probably would have resulted in a slightly higher ratio to income if prices had not been held down somewhat by controls.

Table 3.- Average retail price of meats, farm value and marketing charge, per retail pound, 1937-41 average, by years, 1946 to date, by months, 1951.

Year or month	Retail price 1/	Net farm value 2/	Margin	Government processor payments	Marketing charge 3/	Government payments to producers 4/	Adjusted farm value 5/
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
				All meat products			
1937-41 av.	25.6	12.8	12.8	-	12.8	-	12.8
1946	38.5	26.3	12.2	1.8	14.0	0.2	26.5
1947	55.4	35.4	20.0	-	20.0	-	35.4
1948	62.0	39.0	23.0	-	23.0	-	39.0
1949	56.0	33.7	22.3	-	22.3	-	33.7
1950	59.1	36.8	22.3	-	22.3	-	36.8
1951 6/	67.3	44.2	23.2	-	23.2	-	44.2
				Beef (Choice grade)			
1937-41 av.	29.5	17.0	12.5	-	12.5	-	17.0
1946	41.8	33.2	8.6	2.6	11.2	0.3	33.5
1947	61.1	44.2	16.9	-	16.9	-	44.2
1948	73.7	53.0	20.7	-	20.7	-	53.0
1949	66.8	45.6	21.2	-	21.2	-	45.6
1950	73.5	51.8	21.7	-	21.7	-	51.8
1951 6/	85.7	64.0	21.7	-	21.7	-	64.0
By months, 1951 6/							
Jan.	83.2	61.2	22.0	-	22.0	-	61.2
Feb.	85.0	65.0	20.0	-	20.0	-	65.0
Mar.	84.8	64.5	20.3	-	20.3	-	64.5
Apr.	85.4	65.1	20.3	-	20.3	-	65.1
May	84.5	63.0	21.5	-	21.5	-	63.0
June	84.7	62.0	22.7	-	22.7	-	62.0
July	84.8	61.1	23.7	-	23.7	-	61.1
Aug.	84.7	63.8	20.9	-	20.9	-	63.8
Sept.	84.9	65.6	19.3	-	19.3	-	65.6
Oct.	88.6	67.9	20.7	-	20.7	-	67.9
Nov.	89.0	66.2	22.8	-	22.8	-	66.2
Dec.	88.9	63.1	25.8	-	25.8	-	63.1
				Pork, including lard			
1937-41 av.	20.4	10.7	9.7	-	9.7	-	10.7
1946	33.4	24.0	9.4	1.4	10.8	-	24.0
1947	47.2	33.6	13.6	-	13.6	-	33.6
1948	47.5	32.4	15.1	-	15.1	-	32.4
1949	41.1	25.4	15.7	-	15.7	-	25.4
1950	40.6	25.3	15.4	-	15.4	-	25.3
1951 6/	44.9	28.1	16.8	-	16.8	-	28.1
By months, 1951 6/							
Jan.	44.1	27.8	16.3	-	16.3	-	27.8
Feb.	45.4	30.6	14.8	-	14.8	-	30.6
Mar.	45.5	29.5	16.0	-	16.0	-	29.5
Apr.	45.1	28.6	16.5	-	16.5	-	28.6
May	45.1	28.4	16.7	-	16.7	-	28.4
June	45.4	29.3	16.1	-	16.1	-	29.3
July	45.4	28.9	16.5	-	16.5	-	28.9
Aug.	45.7	29.5	16.2	-	16.2	-	29.5
Sept.	45.6	27.4	18.2	-	18.2	-	27.4
Oct.	45.5	28.2	17.3	-	17.3	-	28.2
Nov.	43.9	25.0	18.9	-	18.9	-	25.0
Dec.	42.5	24.5	18.0	-	18.0	-	24.5
				Lamb			
1937-41 av.	27.0	13.8	13.3	-	13.3	-	13.8
1946	42.1	26.8	15.3	-	15.3	2.2	29.0
1947	56.7	37.3	19.4	-	19.4	-	37.3
1948	64.3	42.1	22.2	-	22.2	-	42.1
1949	67.4	41.4	26.0	-	26.0	-	41.4
1950	69.6	44.7	24.9	-	24.9	-	44.7
1951 6/	77.4	53.3	24.1	-	24.1	-	53.3
By months, 1951 6/							
Jan.	74.1	47.0	27.1	-	27.1	-	47.0
Feb.	74.6	50.1	24.5	-	24.5	-	50.1
Mar.	73.5	51.9	21.6	-	21.6	-	51.9
Apr.	76.0	55.1	20.9	-	20.9	-	55.1
May	77.5	56.3	21.2	-	21.2	-	56.3
June	78.4	57.1	21.3	-	22.8	-	57.1
July	77.8	55.0	22.8	-	22.8	-	55.0
Aug.	77.5	54.5	23.0	-	23.0	-	54.5
Sept.	78.1	55.2	22.9	-	22.9	-	55.2
Oct.	78.6	54.2	24.4	-	24.4	-	54.2
Nov.	80.4	52.5	27.9	-	27.9	-	52.5
Dec.	82.0	51.2	30.8	-	30.8	-	51.2

1/ Calculated from "market basket" values. 2/ Farm value of live animal of weight and grade necessary to produce 1 pound of meat products at retail minus the computed value of byproducts. Standard factors are 2.16 pounds of cattle, 2.16 pounds of lambs, and 1.41 pounds of hog. 3/ "Adjusted margin". Equals margin plus Government payments to slaughterers. 4/ Government payments to cattle and sheep feeders. 5/ Net farm value plus Government payments to livestock producers. 6/ Preliminary estimate.

Parity Prices Change
in January

In accordance with the formula prescribed in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1949, the base period used for calculating parity prices was moved forward one year on January 15. The new 1942-51 adjusted base price for hogs was 8 cents per 100 pounds, or about 1 percent, less than the 1941-50 base used last year. The new base prices for lambs, cattle, and calves were about 5 percent higher than the old. For lambs the rise was 38 cents per 100 pounds; for veal calves, 42 cents per 100 pounds; and for beef cattle, 34 cents per 100 pounds. Since the index of prices paid by farmers for interest, taxes and farm wage rates increased 3 points or about 1 percent from December 15 to January 15, the parity for hogs on January 15 remained unchanged at \$21.50 per 100 pounds. The parity for lambs advanced from \$21.90 to \$23.20; for veal calves, from \$22.30 to \$23.70: and for beef cattle, from \$19.90 to \$21.10.

A fuller explanation of methods of computing parity may be found in this Situation for February 1950.

Marketings Margins Wider
in 1951 for Pork, About
Unchanged for Beef

The total price margin between the retail price for meat and the price received by farmers for live animals was slightly larger in 1951 than in 1950 for pork and about unchanged for beef. For all meats combined, the margin increased not quite 1 cent per pound or approximately 4 percent. This was less than the percentage increase in retail prices, so that the percentage of the consumer's meat dollar received by farmers increased moderately.

The marketing charge or margin is defined as the total spread between the retail price of meat per pound and the value received by the farmer for the equivalent weight of live animal (excluding the value of byproducts derived from it). The margin includes the costs and profits of the entire marketing process including transportation, marketing, and slaughter of livestock and processing, transportation, wholesaling and retailing of meat.

The marketing margin is significant in an analysis of prices of meat animals because those prices are influenced so strongly by the demand for and price of meat at retail. In fact, the relationship between farmers' prices and consumer demand is probably closer for meat than for almost any other farm product.

As has often been pointed out in this Situation, marketing margins for meat do not necessarily follow, over any considerable period of time, the prices either of meat or of live animals. They are determined more by costs of marketing than by prices of the products -- costs of labor, rents, materials and supplies, transportation charges, taxes and interest rates. These costs change rather slowly. The efficiency of the marketing system

also is improved only very gradually. Consequently, marketing margins for meat normally are more stable than prices of meat or livestock. Because of this stability, when meat prices are rising rapidly margins usually appear comparatively small and the farmer's share of the consumer's meat dollar is increased. When meat prices fall, margins are relatively large and the farmer's share declines.

Responding to the general inflationary pressures, marketing margins have trended generally upward since the end of World War II. Margins in 1951 in part conformed to this uptrend, but they also were affected by price control regulations imposed during the year. The marketing margin on pork, the meat least subject to price controls last year, increased rather substantially over 1950. The margin on beef fluctuated during the year in line with developments in price control. In early months, when prices of beef were controlled but prices of cattle were not, margins were narrow as cattle prices pushed upward so hard as to bring requests for limits on live cattle prices. After the limits were established on June 4, the marketing margin widened. It then narrowed when cattle prices again pressed upward, but widened once more when supplies of cattle began to increase and price pressures diminished. For the year as a whole, marketing margins on beef were about the same as in 1950.

Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in Canada

Imports of meat animals and fresh meats into the United States from Canada have been prohibited since February 25 following the diagnosis of foot and mouth disease in the province of Saskatchewan, Canada. Though the outbreak is local and will probably be confined to a relatively small area, United States imports are prohibited from any country where the disease is known to exist.

The embargo, as long as it is in effect, will end imports of cattle and calves from Canada. About 200,000 head were brought in last year. Moreover, few cattle from any source will now enter the United States. None have come in from Mexico since the Mexican border was closed at the end of 1946.

The United States imported about 80 million pounds of fresh beef and veal from Canada in 1951, and smaller quantities of fresh pork and lamb. None will enter now. Imports of canned beef from Argentina and other South American countries and of cured beef from Mexico will continue, as will the relatively small imports of other meats from various supplying countries.

Canada could legally replace its fresh beef export to the United States by export of canned, corned, pickled or cured beef, but production facilities are probably limited. Furthermore, there had previously been little likelihood that imports of cattle and of beef from Canada in 1952 would equal those of 1951 because Canadian needs are increasing.

Digest of OPS and NPA Regulations Affecting Meat and Meat Animals

This list of regulations supplements those appearing in earlier issues of the Livestock and Meat Situation. These lists are compiled for the reference value they may have now and as a historical source in the future. Questions regarding the specific application of the regulations should be referred to the Agency administering them.

Regulations issued by the Office of Price Stabilization, Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 61 Amendment 1 Issued January 14, 1952 Effective January 19, 1952	Puts specialty steaks under SR 61, changes the filing requirements, and makes other miscellaneous changes for processed beef.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 65 Amendment 1 Issued February 1, 1952 Effective February 6, 1952	Makes a number of minor changes in the technical provisions of the retail pork ceiling price regulation.
Ceiling Price Regulation 2 Revision 2 Issued December 14, 1951 Effective December 19, 1951	Fixes ceiling prices and maximum brokerage commissions for all sales of untanned domestic cattlehides, kips, and calfskins, including cut parts suitable for making leather. Prices are generally below those of CPR 2, Rev. 1.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Amendment 39 Issued January 4, 1952 Effective January 4, 1952	Permits a manufacturer who has established a ceiling price under any OPS regulation to use that price pending the establishment of CPR 22 price. Simplifies filing requirements for some sellers.
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 15 Revision 1 Issued January 4, 1952 Effective January 9, 1952	Revokes the pricing method previously in effect under SR 15 and permits manufacturers to price under CPR 22. Extends the mandatory effective date insofar as it applies to canned meat and dry sausage to January 15, 1952.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 22 Supplementary Regulation 15 Revision 1, Amendment 1 Issued January 31, 1952 Effective January 31, 1952	Authorizes processors of sterile canned horsemeat to continue to determine ceiling prices under the GCPR, or to price under CPR 22 if they have already filed under that regulation.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 8 Issued January 31, 1952 Effective February 5, 1952	Permits a wholesaler of beef whose distribution unit is located in certain Southeastern States where freight rates were recently reduced to use the original rates in compiling ceiling prices. Does not change retail ceilings.
Ceiling Price Regulation 61 Amendment 2 Issued January 11, 1952 Effective January 16, 1952	Simplifies pricing and reporting requirements for the export trade. Permits exporters to use alternative methods in establishing ceiling prices.
Ceiling Price Regulation 61 Supplementary Regulation 1 Issued January 11, 1952 Effective January 16, 1952	Permits shippers for export to use the same percentage markup to each territory and possession that they used during the period June 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950.
Ceiling Price Regulation 73 Amendment 2 Issued January 25, 1952 Effective January 30, 1952	Adds live hogs and locally produced uninspected pork to the list of livestock and meat products on which dollars-and-cents ceilings have been established for the Virgin Islands.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 1 Issued February 5, 1952 Effective February 5, 1952	Suspends allocation provisions on lamb carcasses until the beginning of the first accounting period commencing after March 22.
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 1 Issued February 1, 1952 Effective February 6, 1952	Authorizes sales of light veal carcasses, hide on, to retailers, Makes other minor changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 124 Issued February 4, 1952 Effective February 4, 1952	Established dollars-and-cents ceilings for surgical catgut sutures for manufacturers and resellers.

Continued -

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Overriding Regulation 7 Amendment 8 Issued December 20, 1951 Effective December 26, 1951	Extends the exemption from price control of certain specialty food items to include importers, manufacturers, and processors.
General Overriding Regulation 24 Issued January 18, 1952 Effective January 18, 1952	Sets up the legal framework for a "community food pricing" system of ceiling prices.

Regulations issued by the National Production Authority, Department of Commerce

M-62, as amended Dec. 29, 1951. Issued December 29, 1951 Effective January 1, 1952	Removes processing limitations on horsehides, and makes other minor changes.
M-35, Revocation Issued February 20, 1952 Effective February 29, 1952	Revokes M-35, as amended.
M-62, Revocation Issued February 20, 1952 Effective February 29, 1952	Revokes M-62, as amended.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	1951 Year total or average	1951 January	1951 December	1952 January	1952 February
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per					
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	38.11	38.38	36.71	36.78	37.07
Choice	do.	35.96	34.77	34.78	34.68	34.57
Good	do.	33.37	31.88	32.43	32.27	31.90
Commercial	do.	30.97	29.47	29.72	29.59	29.12
Utility	do.	28.31	27.32	26.62	26.72	26.46
All grades	do.	35.72	34.10	34.59	34.25	33.78
Omaha, all grades	do.	34.18	32.75	33.03	32.91	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	34.34	32.81	33.21	32.62	
Cows, Chicago 2/						
Commercial	do.	27.76	24.64	25.29	24.26	23.71
Utility	do.	24.48	23.03	22.55	21.96	21.65
Canner and Cutter	do.	20.93	20.17	19.64	19.04	18.98
Vealers, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	37.19	36.39	36.00	36.84	38.15
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	32.86	31.88	30.45	31.19	32.06
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	3/28.90	27.00	27.50	27.20	27.60
Veal calves	do.	3/32.60	30.80	31.30	31.50	31.90
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.68	20.86	18.32	17.60	16.82
180-200 pounds	do.	21.33	21.59	18.64	18.50	17.94
200-220 pounds	do.	21.45	21.55	18.57	18.42	18.02
220-240 pounds	do.	21.36	21.31	18.31	18.13	17.70
240-270 pounds	do.	21.12	20.87	17.96	17.58	17.20
270-300 pounds	do.	20.67	20.39	17.56	17.06	16.73
All weights	do.	20.74	20.79	18.17	17.79	
Seven markets 4/	do.	20.47	20.47	17.85	5/17.45	
Sows, Chicago	do.	18.43	17.59	15.24	15.08	
Price received by farmers	do.	20.20	20.00	17.60	17.40	17.20
Hog-corn price ratio 6/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	11.6	12.0	9.4	9.3	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	12.5	13.0	10.4	10.4	10.4
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	17.58	19.74	14.69	14.84	14.81
Price received by farmers	do.	3/16.00	15.20	13.90	13.40	13.30
Lambs						
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	34.33	34.67	30.57	29.98	27.78
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	7/31.90	33.62	30.50	---	---
Price received by farmers	do.	3/31.20	30.00	28.50	28.20	26.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		411	391	379	376	377
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per					
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	56.42	54.57	56.38	56.05	50.06
Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 pounds	do.	57.27	53.55	58.00	8/ 57.20	52.19
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	22.88	22.61	19.81	19.90	18.88
Average per 100 pounds	do.	31.41	31.04	27.20	27.32	25.92
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.94	25.95	23.09	22.94	21.82
Average per 100 pounds	do.	36.37	36.39	32.38	32.16	30.59
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	85.7	83.2	88.9		
Lamb	do.	77.4	74.1	82.0		
Pork, including lard	do.	44.9	44.1	42.5		
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		274	262	266		
Retail (1935-39=100) 9/		274	265	275	274	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Simple average of prices for 12 months.
4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
5/ 8 markets combined including Indianapolis.
6/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
7/ Average of prices for January, August, September, October, November, and December.
8/ Price of 40-50 lb-Lamb carcass
9/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	1951 Year total or average	1951 January	1951 December	1952 January	1952 February
Meat animal marketings						
Index number (1935-39=100)		151	171	160	172	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000					
Cattle and calves	head	3,356	183	200	133	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,509	110	119	123	
Slaughter under Federal inspection						
Number slaughtered						
Cattle	do.	11,879	1,160	998	1,096	
Calves	do.	4,985	433	344	382	
Sheep and lambs	do.	10,056	1,058	810	1,042	
Hogs	do.	62,054	6,584	6,912	6,835	
Percentage sows	Percent					
Average live weight per head						
Cattle	Pounds	992	1,022	1,008	1,019	
Calves	do.	209	193	204	201	
Sheep and lambs	do.	98	100	100	102	
Hogs	do.	246	250	241	246	
Average production						
Beef, per head	do.	544	556	551	563	
Veal, per head	do.	118	105	114	113	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	47	48	47	49	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	136	136	131	137	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	55	55	54	56	
Lard, per head	do.	36	38	36	36	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	15	15	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	6,431	642	547	614	
Veal	do.	583	45	39	43	
Lamb and mutton	do.	465	50	38	51	
Pork 2/	do.	8,407	896	906	932	
Lard	do.	2,225	249	246	248	
Total commercial slaughter 3/						
Number slaughtered	1,000					
Cattle	head	16,380	1,580	1,324	1,509	
Calves	do.	8,417	759	602	681	
Sheep and lambs	do.	11,028	1,132	880	1,127	
Hogs	do.	74,551	7,884	8,126	8,277	
Total production	Million					
Beef	pounds	8,554	842	700	811	
Veal	do.	972	81	68	75	
Lamb and mutton	do.	504	53	41	54	
Pork 2/	do.	10,001	1,065	1,057	1,113	
Lard	do.	2,531	281	277	283	
Cold storage stocks first of month						
Beef	do.	---	147	182	218	235
Veal	do.	---	14	16	17	16
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	10	13	14	14
Pork	do.	---	499	382	549	697
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	770	688	912	1,081

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

STATISTICAL APPENDIX

The following section is an appendix of data on meat animals similar to that given in this Situation each February since 1949. A few of the tables have been reduced in length, with references in footnotes to sources of data for years earlier than those shown. In some tables for which revised data will be made available later in the year, that fact is stated in footnotes.

The two pages of statistics in each issue of this Situation, together with occasional additions or revisions given in special sections of the text, can be used to keep this appendix to date.

Tables of this appendix having no credit line present data from the Crop Reporting Board, the Division of Livestock and Poultry Statistics, or the Division of Statistical and Historical Research of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Several tables, as credited, were taken or compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration. Indexes of wholesale and retail prices of meat are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, and population and certain foreign trade data are from the Bureau of the Census.

More complete compilations of statistics of livestock and meats may be obtained by referring to Agricultural Statistics (USDA), Livestock Market News Statistics and Related Data (PMA) or annual issues of Crops and Markets (BAE), and to the regularly scheduled livestock reports released during the year by the BAE.

Index to Statistical Appendix

Table A-1.- Number of livestock on farms January 1, by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1945 to date

Year	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
			All cattle and calves				
1937-41 av.	4,927	11,476	19,034	4,521	16,407	11,122	67,488
1945	5,366	13,513	25,746	5,603	21,190	14,155	85,573
1946	5,171	13,061	24,000	5,478	20,559	13,966	82,235
1947	5,155	13,067	23,439	5,457	19,913	13,523	80,554
1948	5,113	12,472	22,057	5,364	18,831	13,334	77,171
1949	5,140	12,327	22,448	5,243	18,185	13,487	76,830
1950	5,173	12,598	22,587	5,489	18,901	13,215	77,963
1951	5,174	12,910	23,690	5,878	20,396	13,977	82,025
1952 1/	5,387	13,521	26,063	6,404	21,477	15,210	88,062
			Milk cows				
1937-41 av.	3,199	6,010	6,483	1,873	5,019	2,238	24,822
1945	3,457	6,854	7,002	2,102	5,806	2,549	27,770
1946	3,364	6,696	6,486	2,078	5,454	2,443	26,521
1947	3,340	6,585	6,257	2,039	5,227	2,394	25,842
1948	3,275	6,314	5,825	2,013	4,908	2,280	24,615
1949	3,277	6,123	5,612	1,982	4,655	2,213	23,862
1950	3,280	6,078	5,542	2,009	4,752	2,192	23,853
1951	3,232	6,034	5,474	2,039	4,794	2,149	23,722
1952 1/	3,244	5,976	5,319	2,039	4,676	2,153	23,407
			Other cows				
1937-41 av.	31	397	2,431	589	3,633	3,488	10,569
1945	56	687	4,291	1,010	5,800	4,612	16,456
1946	55	625	4,188	1,027	5,884	4,629	16,408
1947	53	674	4,335	1,074	5,836	4,516	16,488
1948	56	647	4,167	1,067	5,647	4,426	16,010
1949	54	651	4,236	1,001	5,512	4,465	15,919
1950	55	713	4,478	1,123	5,782	4,592	16,743
1951	58	782	4,883	1,256	6,483	4,934	18,396
1952 1/	79	920	5,754	1,424	7,069	5,362	20,608
			Total milk animals 2/				
1937-41 av.	4,504	3,647	9,277	2,701	7,335	3,350	35,814
1945	4,903	9,979	10,352	3,084	8,622	3,909	40,849
1946	4,722	9,654	9,499	2,996	7,965	3,713	38,549
1947	4,708	9,562	9,157	2,970	7,653	3,633	37,683
1948	4,679	9,247	8,598	2,938	7,215	3,492	36,169
1949	4,701	9,041	8,323	2,902	6,899	3,404	35,270
1950	4,744	9,075	8,265	2,975	7,014	3,382	35,455
1951	4,731	9,097	8,222	3,059	7,141	3,356	35,606
1952 1/	4,853	9,158	8,125	3,172	7,149	3,413	35,870
			Total animals other than for milk 3/				
1937-41 av.	424	2,829	9,757	1,819	9,072	7,772	31,674
1945	463	3,534	15,394	2,519	12,568	10,246	44,724
1946	449	3,407	14,501	2,482	12,594	10,253	43,686
1947	447	3,505	14,282	2,487	12,260	9,890	42,871
1948	434	3,225	13,459	2,426	11,616	9,842	41,002
1949	439	3,286	14,125	2,341	11,286	10,083	41,560
1950	429	3,523	14,322	2,514	11,887	9,833	42,508
1951	443	3,813	15,468	3,944	13,255	10,621	46,419
1952 1/	534	4,363	17,938	3,232	14,328	11,797	52,192

For footnotes see next page.

Continued

Table A-1.- Number of livestock on farms January 1, by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1945 to date, continued

Year	North Atlantic	North Central: East	North Central: West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
				Hogs			
1937-41 av.	1,339	13,639	18,681	5,079	9,427	2,462	50,628
1945	1,561	15,420	24,048	5,738	10,112	2,494	59,373
1946	1,380	16,491	26,627	5,082	9,486	2,240	61,306
1947	1,300	15,566	23,561	5,335	9,135	1,913	56,810
1948	1,305	14,842	21,952	5,530	9,030	1,931	54,590
1949	1,322	15,153	23,410	5,372	8,945	2,055	56,257
1950	1,271	16,297	24,809	5,391	9,095	1,989	58,852
1951	1,245	17,594	27,534	5,513	9,121	1,845	62,852
1952 1/	1,273	18,035	28,342	5,772	8,503	1,978	63,903
				All sheep and lambs			
1937-41 av.	871	5,755	8,707	1,078	11,690	23,757	51,857
1945	660	4,297	9,891	809	11,650	19,213	46,520
1946	587	3,992	8,590	770	11,039	17,384	42,362
1947	524	3,507	7,690	737	9,957	15,083	37,498
1948	476	3,323	6,268	694	8,966	14,610	34,337
1949	446	2,959	5,623	677	7,734	13,504	30,943
1950	423	2,835	5,373	674	7,851	12,670	29,826
1951	430	2,839	5,583	705	8,180	12,898	30,635
1952 1/	460	3,148	6,180	744	7,515	13,678	31,725
				Stock sheep and lambs			
1937-41 av.	824	4,530	6,620	1,078	11,410	21,416	45,879
1945	624	3,347	6,322	809	11,390	17,117	39,609
1946	550	2,959	5,240	770	10,804	15,202	35,525
1947	489	2,686	4,718	737	9,672	13,503	31,805
1948	451	2,483	4,185	694	8,841	12,832	29,486
1949	421	2,262	3,800	677	7,599	12,181	26,940
1950	403	2,212	3,672	674	7,693	11,528	26,182
1951	411	2,298	3,966	705	8,025	11,848	27,253
1952 1/	439	2,532	4,455	744	7,373	12,298	27,841
				Horses			
1937-41 av.	748	2,308	3,655	512	1,917	1,581	10,721
1945	582	1,561	2,929	525	1,771	1,347	8,715
1946	549	1,392	2,652	520	1,714	1,254	8,081
1947	508	1,217	2,301	512	1,639	1,163	7,340
1948	459	1,062	2,043	499	1,566	1,075	6,704
1949	409	922	1,812	475	1,484	994	6,096
1950	355	800	1,594	454	1,410	935	5,548
1951	312	698	1,391	424	1,303	865	4,993
1952 1/	266	588	1,163	389	1,169	795	4,370
				All work stock 4/			
1937-41 av.	805	2,500	4,063	1,499	4,346	1,672	14,884
1945	615	1,665	3,199	1,414	3,653	1,404	11,950
1946	579	1,477	2,890	1,385	3,471	1,306	11,108
1947	535	1,285	2,488	1,345	3,266	1,210	10,129
1948	482	1,120	2,190	1,303	3,067	1,117	9,279
1949	428	971	1,934	1,246	2,887	1,032	8,498
1950	371	843	1,697	1,190	2,711	969	7,781
1951	326	736	1,470	1,124	2,515	896	7,067
1952 1/	279	621	1,232	1,043	2,292	826	6,293

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Milk cows, and heifers and heifer calves kept for milk cows. 3/ Other cows, heifers and calves, and all steers and bulls. Most of the cattle on feed January 1 are included in this category. 4/ Horses and mules.

Table A-2.- Number of cattle on farms and ranches January 1, by classes, 1932-52

Year	For milk: Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over	For milk: Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	For milk: Heifer calves	For milk: Total	Not for milk: Cows and heifers, 2 years old and over	Not for milk: Heifers, 1 to 2 years old	Not for milk: Calves	Not for milk: Steers	Not for milk: Bulls	Not for milk: Total	All cattle
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1932	24,896	5,020	5,449	35,365	10,439	3,113	9,744	5,560	1,580	30,436	65,801
1933	25,936	5,250	5,674	36,860	11,346	3,414	11,241	5,765	1,654	33,420	70,280
1934	26,931	5,382	5,675	37,988	12,678	3,656	12,226	6,069	1,752	36,381	74,369
1935	26,082	4,995	5,280	36,357	11,151	3,362	10,980	5,323	1,673	32,489	68,846
1936	25,196	4,772	5,484	35,452	11,048	3.493	10,574	5,637	1,643	32,395	67,847
1937	24,649	4,899	5,305	34,853	10,682	3,229	10,395	5,325	1,614	31,245	66,098
1938	24,466	4,808	5,500	34,774	10,132	3,136	10,053	5,555	1,599	30,475	65,249
1939	24,600	5,122	5,904	35,626	9,987	3,058	10,572	5,192	1,594	30,403	66,029
1940	24,940	5,525	5,967	36,432	10,676	3,357	10,936	5,283	1,625	31,877	68,309
1941	25,453	5,676	6,254	37,383	11,366	3,789	11,413	6,119	1,685	34,372	71,755
1942	26,313	5,889	6,635	38,837	12,578	4,055	12,219	6,596	1,740	37,188	76,025
1943	27,138	6,067	7,035	40,240	13,980	4,547	13,239	7,361	1,837	40,964	81,204
1944	27,704	6,352	7,201	41,257	15,521	4,971	13,768	7,849	1,968	44,077	85,334
1945	27,770	6,307	6,772	40,849	16,456	5,069	12,871	8,329	1,999	44,724	85,573
1946	26,521	5,758	6,270	38,549	16,408	4,859	12,810	7,727	1,882	43,686	82,235
1947	25,842	5,524	6,317	37,683	16,488	4,636	12,804	7,109	1,834	42,871	80,554
1948	24,615	5,550	6.004	36,169	16,010	4,518	12,046	6,672	1,756	41,002	77,171
1949	23,862	5,327	6,081	35,270	15,919	4,657	12,033	7,270	1,681	41,560	76,830
1950	23,853	5,394	6,208	35,455	16,743	4,754	12,516	6,805	1,690	42,508	77,963
1951	23,722	5,510	6,374	35,606	18,396	5,082	14,265	6,987	1,689	46,419	82,025
1952 1/	23,407	5,726	6,737	35,870	20,608	5,890	15,541	8,373	1,780	52,192	88,062

1/ Preliminary.

Table A-3.- Number of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, on feed January 1, by regions, 1936 to date

Year	Cattle and calves							
	Pennsylvania	North Central States: East North Central	West North Central: 3 Corn Belt 1/	West North Central: 4 Plains 2/	Texas and Oklahoma	Western States: California	Western States: Other Western	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1936	84	750	1,130	640	145	100	353	3,202
1937	84	740	947	333	125	138	392	2,759
1938	92	840	1,199	452	192	152	409	3,336
1939	78	855	1,166	530	194	125	355	3,303
1940	74	944	1,330	522	194	163	406	3,633
1941	72	1,002	1,509	639	230	169	444	4,065
1942	70	961	1,521	772	251	128	482	4,185
1943	80	993	1,612	928	264	154	414	4,445
1944	75	905	1,517	802	172	134	410	4,015
1945	70	907	1,642	1,020	210	125	437	4,411
1946	82	888	1,500	948	166	149	478	4,211
1947	90	961	1,552	904	171	166	478	4,322
1948	85	850	1,250	744	165	209	518	3,821
1949	88	939	1,501	965	214	258	575	4,540
1950	88	976	1,564	909	216	196	514	4,463
1951	90	967	1,549	936	239	248	569	4,598
1952 3/	104	1,029	1,597	1,050	251	398	665	5,094

Year	Sheep and lambs				
	11 Corn Belt States 4/: East	11 Corn Belt States 4/: West	Western States 5/	New York	United States
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1936	1,177	2,085	2,389	50	5,701
1937	1,203	1,590	2,754	50	5,597
1938	1,368	1,913	2,765	45	6,091
1939	1,194	2,007	2,639	45	5,885
1940	1,172	1,987	2,642	40	5,841
1941	1,186	2,492	2,744	54	6,479
1942	1,083	2,761	2,978	45	6,867
1943	1,049	3,260	2,596	49	6,954
1944	1,031	2,931	2,506	44	6,512
1945	950	3,404	2,521	36	6,911
1946	1,033	3,182	2,585	37	6,837
1947	821	2,872	1,965	35	5,693
1948	840	2,003	1,983	25	4,851
1949	697	1,771	1,510	25	4,003
1950	623	1,649	1,352	20	3,644
1951	541	1,571	1,251	19	3,382
1952 3/	616	1,657	1,590	21	3,884

1/ Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri.
2/ North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas.
3/ Preliminary.
4/ North Central States, except North Dakota.
5/ Eight mountain States, three Pacific States, Texas, Oklahoma, and North Dakota.

Table A-4.- Number of sows farrowing and pigs saved, by spring and fall crops, and number of calves born and lambs saved, 1932 to date

Year	Sows farrowing: Spring 1/	Sows farrowing: Fall 2/	Sows farrowing: Total	Pigs per litter: Spring 1/	Pigs per litter: Fall 2/	Pigs saved: Spring 1/	Pigs saved: Fall 2/	Pigs saved: Total	Calves born 3/	Lambs saved 3/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Number	Number	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1932	8,810	5,179	13,989	5.79	6.08	51,031	31,494	82,525	27,568	29,986
1933	9,122	5,207	14,329	5.86	5.90	53,460	30,740	84,200	28,935	29,768
1934	6,825	2,936	9,761	5.82	5.81	39,698	17,068	56,766	30,240	30,433
1935	5,467	3,857	9,324	6.01	6.03	32,884	23,260	56,144	27,473	27,813
1936	6,954	3,957	10,911	5.96	6.14	41,422	24,303	65,725	28,201	29,762
1937	6,177	3,845	10,022	6.23	6.24	38,525	23,994	62,519	28,033	29,170
1938	6,795	4,517	11,312	6.36	6.32	43,289	28,566	71,855	27,787	30,420
1939	8,692	5,352	14,044	6.12	6.30	53,238	33,714	86,952	28,879	29,913
1940	8,247	4,763	13,010	6.01	6.36	49,584	30,282	79,866	29,886	31,082
1941	7,760	5,535	13,295	6.36	6.43	49,368	35,584	84,952	31,868	32,610
1942	9,684	6,840	16,524	6.31	6.40	61,093	43,810	104,903	34,388	32,312
1943	12,174	7,565	19,739	6.10	6.29	74,223	47,584	121,807	34,797	30,924
1944	9,246	4,882	14,128	6.03	6.33	55,754	30,905	86,659	37,040	28,642
1945	8,302	5,429	13,731	6.29	6.38	52,216	34,611	86,827	35,176	27,042
1946	8,077	4,704	12,781	6.46	6.49	52,191	30,503	82,694	34,550	24,540
1947	8,548	4,866	13,414	6.11	6.39	52,199	31,090	83,289	35,234	22,082
1948	7,833	5,070	12,903	6.44	6.58	50,468	33,358	83,826	33,708	20,011
1949	8,820	5,568	14,388	6.46	6.52	56,969	36,275	93,244	34,464	18,810
1950	9,174	5,923	15,097	6.31	6.65	57,935	39,404	97,339	35,120	18,522
1951	9,581	6,089	15,670	6.47	6.60	61,957	40,182	102,139	---	18,761
1952	4/8,794	---	---	5/6.45		5/56,500	---	---		

1/ In six months beginning December of preceding year.
2/ In six months beginning June.
3/ Data for recent years to be revised about June, 1952.
4/ As indicated by breeding intentions reports in December 1951.
5/ Average number pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to compute indicated number of 1952 spring pigs. Number pigs rounded to nearest 500,000 head.

Table A-5.- Number of stocker and feeder cattle and calves and sheep and lambs received in eight Corn Belt States, by months 1942 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
							Cattle and calves						
1942	123	79	103	154	115	99	91	222	387	579	391	223	2,564
1943	104	85	138	142	99	81	64	160	400	546	382	162	2,363
1944	92	71	73	84	74	106	105	236	367	525	376	170	2,280
1945	113	72	114	129	103	117	104	203	339	669	404	187	2,555
1946	97	97	91	109	106	141	176	323	388	730	445	233	2,935
1947	154	98	161	131	100	120	157	198	395	621	321	145	2,601
1948	103	59	54	82	117	134	138	221	390	606	461	195	2,559
1949	94	72	126	100	92	140	164	384	586	869	432	198	3,258
1950	133	112	141	128	130	160	152	239	447	763	485	251	3,142
1951	183	121	131	151	124	111	173	293	515	893	460	200	3,355
							Sheep and lambs						
1942	147	91	105	159	206	153	172	488	789	1,002	465	202	3,980
1943	178	191	221	139	194	151	129	432	927	979	588	141	4,270
1944	129	99	94	66	118	90	103	382	770	924	420	152	3,345
1945	132	77	107	87	97	52	100	354	932	1,072	315	129	3,454
1946	102	154	90	67	56	76	98	338	865	941	304	121	3,212
1947	171	198	133	136	128	134	166	283	556	677	393	131	3,107
1948	81	64	65	69	106	149	61	229	495	548	367	133	2,369
1949	151	74	61	63	163	138	144	335	534	572	212	71	2,518
1950	115	112	101	98	157	166	153	355	576	591	238	252	2,915
1951	110	119	93	157	258	164	168	492	703	822	305	119	3,509

1/ Monthly data may not add exactly to annual total because of rounding.

Table A-6.--Meat production and consumption in the United States, 1899-1951 1/

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork (excluding lard)			All meats			Lard			Population July 1 1/
	Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption 2/		
		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil.
1899....	5,522	5,029	67.2	387	387	5.2	487	486	6.5	6,310	5,371	71.8	12,706	11,273	150.7	1,679	954	12.8	74.8
1900....	5,628	5,104	67.1	397	397	5.2	493	492	6.5	6,329	5,476	71.9	12,847	11,469	150.7	1,653	1,002	13.2	76.1
1901....	5,814	5,266	67.9	422	422	5.4	548	548	7.0	6,357	5,493	70.8	13,141	11,729	151.1	1,650	997	12.8	77.6
1902....	5,649	5,148	65.0	476	476	6.0	564	560	7.1	5,936	5,288	66.7	12,625	11,472	144.8	1,493	956	12.1	79.2
1903....	6,240	5,711	70.9	492	492	6.1	563	560	6.9	6,067	5,498	68.2	13,362	12,261	152.1	1,529	952	11.8	80.6
1904....	6,176	5,719	69.6	491	491	6.0	538	537	6.5	6,387	5,803	70.6	13,592	12,550	152.7	1,638	1,031	12.5	82.2
1905....	6,504	5,973	71.3	556	556	6.6	530	529	6.3	6,629	5,945	71.0	14,219	13,003	155.2	1,742	991	11.8	83.8
1906....	6,537	6,087	71.3	598	598	7.0	543	542	6.3	6,793	6,065	71.0	14,471	13,292	155.6	1,735	1,002	11.7	85.4
1907....	6,544	6,141	70.6	626	626	7.2	553	551	6.3	7,059	6,443	74.1	14,782	13,761	158.2	1,790	1,146	13.2	87.0
1908....	6,662	6,393	72.1	637	637	7.2	559	557	6.3	7,535	6,898	77.7	15,393	14,485	163.3	1,911	1,277	14.4	88.7
1909....	6,915	6,713	73.5	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.7	6,557	6,065	66.4	14,740	14,044	153.8	1,628	1,127	12.3	91.3
1910....	6,647	6,508	69.8	667	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.8	13,998	13,527	145.1	1,553	1,156	12.4	93.2
1911....	6,549	6,426	67.9	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.3	6,961	6,482	68.4	14,869	14,264	150.6	1,747	1,138	12.0	94.7
1912....	6,234	6,153	64.0	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	66.2	14,453	13,901	144.7	1,658	1,102	11.5	96.1
1913....	6,182	6,157	62.8	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.2	6,979	6,501	66.3	14,475	13,968	142.5	1,653	1,073	10.9	98.0
1914....	6,017	6,144	61.5	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.6	14,103	13,877	138.9	1,554	1,090	10.9	99.9
1915....	6,075	5,668	56.0	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	66.1	14,886	13,561	133.9	1,689	1,198	11.8	101.3
1916....	6,460	6,003	58.4	655	656	6.4	585	595	5.8	8,207	7,037	68.4	15,907	14,291	139.0	1,706	1,228	11.9	102.8
1917....	7,239	6,687	64.2	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.5	15,501	13,988	134.2	1,451	1,091	10.5	104.2
1918....	7,726	7,167	68.0	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.6	17,341	14,811	140.5	1,899	1,291	12.2	105.4
1919....	6,756	6,462	61.0	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.4	16,642	14,596	137.8	1,920	1,174	11.1	105.9
1920....	6,306	6,293	58.6	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	63.1	15,334	14,489	135.0	1,958	1,319	12.3	107.3
1921....	6,022	6,024	55.1	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.1	7,697	7,029	64.3	15,178	14,539	133.0	2,108	1,217	11.1	109.3
1922....	6,588	6,503	58.6	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	65.3	16,138	15,162	136.7	2,302	1,503	13.6	110.9
1923....	6,721	6,671	59.2	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.3	9,483	8,310	73.7	17,708	16,492	146.3	2,718	1,643	14.6	112.7
1924....	6,877	6,786	59.1	972	977	8.5	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.5	17,595	16,810	146.3	2,660	1,663	14.5	114.9
1925....	6,878	6,888	59.1	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.2	8,128	7,734	66.3	16,598	16,220	139.1	2,153	1,453	12.5	116.6
1926....	7,089	7,074	59.8	955	959	8.1	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.7	16,649	16,199	137.0	2,206	1,465	12.4	118.2
1927....	6,395	6,484	54.1	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.3	8,430	8,058	67.3	16,321	16,048	134.0	2,263	1,541	12.9	119.8
1928....	5,771	5,872	48.4	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.5	9,041	8,545	70.5	16,248	15,860	130.8	2,458	1,626	13.4	121.3
1929....	5,871	6,048	49.3	761	766	6.3	682	686	5.6	8,833	8,484	69.2	16,147	15,984	130.4	2,461	1,598	13.0	122.6
1930....	5,917	6,021	48.6	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.7	8,482	8,246	66.6	16,016	15,885	128.3	2,227	1,584	12.8	123.8
1931....	6,009	6,025	48.3	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.1	8,739	8,477	67.9	16,456	16,212	129.9	2,307	1,706	13.7	124.8
1932....	5,789	5,830	46.4	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	70.3	16,418	16,359	130.2	2,380	1,814	14.4	125.6
1933 3/..	6,440	6,469	51.2	891	891	7.1	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	70.3	17,417	17,094	135.3	2,475	1,772	14.0	126.3
1934 3/..	8,345	8,066	63.5	1,246	1,182	9.3	851	798	6.3	8,397	8,141	64.0	18,839	18,187	143.1	2,091	1,648	13.0	127.1
1935 3/..	6,608	6,770	52.9	1,023	1,087	8.5	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	48.1	14,427	14,935	116.7	1,276	1,226	9.6	128.0
1936 3/..	7,358	7,742	60.1	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.6	7,474	7,061	54.8	16,761	16,727	129.8	1,679	1,449	11.2	128.9
1937....	6,798	7,107	54.8	1,108	1,108	8.6	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,135	55.4	15,709	16,257	125.4	1,431	1,361	10.5	129.6
1938....	6,908	7,058	54.0	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.8	16,479	16,500	126.2	1,728	1,440	11.0	130.7
1939....	7,011	7,159	54.4	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.6	8,660	8,474	64.3	17,534	17,493	132.8	2,037	1,671	12.7	131.7
1940....	7,175	7,257	54.7	981	981	7.4	876	873	6.6	10,044	9,701	73.0	19,076	18,812	141.7	2,283	1,924	14.5	132.8
1941....	8,082	8,021	60.5	1,036	1,005	7.6	923	901	6.8	9,528	9,007	67.9	19,569	18,934	142.8	2,228	1,379	14.2	132.6
1942....	8,843	8,049	60.8	1,151	1,084	8.2	1,042	950	7.2	10,876	8,368	63.3	21,912	18,451	139.5	2,401	1,759	13.3	132.3
1943....	8,571	6,860	52.9	1,167	1,059	8.2	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	78.5	24,482	18,921	146.0	2,865	1,820	14.0	129.6
1944....	9,112	7,146	55.3	1,738	1,594	12.4	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	79.2	25,178	19,227	153.5	3,054	1,324	14.1	129.2
1945....	10,275	7,663	59.0	1,661	1,533	11.8	1,054	943	7.3	10,697	8,598	66.3	23,687	18,737	144.4	2,066	1,622	12.5	129.8
1946....	9,373	8,533	61.3	1,440	1,379	9.9	970	925	6.6	11,173	10,530	75.6	22,956	21,367	153.4	2,138	1,669	12.0	139.3
1947....	10,428	9,913	69.1	1,599	1,540	10.7	802	765	5.4	10,601	10,018	69.8	23,430	22,236	155.0	2,426	1,928	13.4	143.5
1948....	9,079	9,157	62.6	1,412	1,373	9.4	750	736	5.0	10,205	9,990	68.4	21,446	21,256	145.4	2,356	2,008	13.7	146.2
1949....	9,448	9,429	63.5	1,322	1,299	8.7	607	610	4.1	10,333	10,040	67.6	21,710	21,378	143.9	2,552	1,906	12.8	148.6
1950....	9,543	9,522	63.0	1,216	1,192	7.9	599	598	4.0	10,751	10,398	68.8	22,109	21,710	143.7	2,645	2,103	13.9	151.1
1951 4/	8,855	8,533	56.2	1,048	995	6.5	522	517	3.4	11,570	10,951	72.1	21,995	20,996	138.2	2,909	2,158	14.2	151.9

1/ Beginning 1909 population is adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years. Beginning 1940 data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Beginning 1941 consumption is civilian only. Units are carcass weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.
2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.
3/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs.

4/ Preliminary

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Table A-7.- Livestock slaughtered and meat and lard produced, by class of slaughter, United States, 1938 to date 1/

Year	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Total	Livestock slaughter: Farm	Livestock slaughter: Total	Meat production: Commercial: Federally inspected	Meat production: Commercial: Other wholesale and retail	Meat production: Commercial: Total	Meat production: Farm	Meat production: Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle					Beef				
1938	9,776	4,477	14,253	569	14,822	4,798	1,887	6,685	223	6,908
1939	9,446	4,604	14,050	571	14,621	4,803	1,983	6,786	225	7,011
1940	9,743	4,644	14,387	571	14,958	4,964	1,984	6,948	227	7,175
1941	10,932	4,916	15,848	571	16,419	5,732	2,126	7,858	224	8,082
1942	12,340	5,047	17,387	646	18,033	6,343	2,249	8,592	251	8,843
1943	11,721	5,416	17,137	708	17,845	5,966	2,340	8,306	265	8,571
1944	13,955	5,035	18,990	854	19,844	6,652	2,149	8,801	311	9,112
1945	14,531	6,244	20,775	816	21,691	7,236	2,700	9,936	339	10,275
1946	11,402	7,479	18,881	943	19,824	5,661	3,349	9,010	363	9,373
1947	15,524	6,009	21,533	860	22,393	7,535	2,561	10,096	332	10,428
1948	12,994	5,392	18,366	800	19,186	6,433	2,333	8,766	313	9,079
1949	13,222	4,791	18,013	776	18,789	6,998	2,144	9,142	306	9,448
1950	13,103	4,798	17,901	741	18,642	7,051	2,197	9,248	295	9,543
1951	11,879	4,501	16,380			6,431	2,123	8,554	2/ 301	8,855
	Calves					Veal				
1938	5,492	3,089	8,581	725	9,306	581	332	913	81	994
1939	5,264	3,172	8,436	755	9,191	559	348	907	84	991
1940	5,358	3,003	8,361	728	9,089	568	328	896	85	981
1941	5,461	3,107	8,568	684	9,252	599	353	952	84	1,036
1942	5,760	3,317	9,077	641	9,718	667	399	1,066	85	1,151
1943	5,209	4,111	9,320	620	9,940	597	481	1,078	89	1,167
1944	7,769	5,749	13,518	724	14,242	926	703	1,629	109	1,738
1945	7,020	5,884	12,904	741	13,645	823	729	1,552	109	1,661
1946	5,841	5,569	11,410	758	12,168	642	687	1,329	111	1,440
1947	7,933	5,080	13,013	682	13,695	904	589	1,493	106	1,599
1948	6,907	4,860	11,767	561	12,328	791	532	1,323	89	1,412
1949	6,449	4,379	10,828	517	11,345	746	494	1,240	82	1,322
1950	5,580	4,123	9,973	462	10,435	667	470	1,137	79	1,216
1951	4,985	3,432	8,417			583	389	972	2/ 76	1,048
	Sheep and lambs					Lamb and mutton				
1938	18,060	3,753	21,813	610	22,423	720	151	871	26	897
1939	17,241	3,776	21,017	597	21,614	694	152	846	26	872
1940	17,349	3,651	21,000	571	21,571	702	150	852	24	876
1941	18,122	3,605	21,727	582	22,309	749	150	899	24	923
1942	21,624	3,383	25,007	578	25,585	879	139	1,018	24	1,042
1943	23,363	3,134	26,497	576	27,073	958	122	1,080	24	1,104
1944	21,875	2,918	24,793	562	25,355	887	114	1,001	23	1,024
1945	21,218	2,850	24,068	571	24,639	913	117	1,030	24	1,054
1946	19,884	2,350	22,234	580	22,814	850	96	946	24	970
1947	16,667	1,540	18,207	559	18,766	717	62	779	23	802
1948	15,343	1,554	16,897	542	17,439	665	63	728	22	750
1949	12,137	1,240	13,377	496	13,872	536	51	587	20	607
1950	11,739	1,113	12,852	442	13,294	534	47	581	18	599
1951	10,056	972	11,028			465	39	504	2/ 18	522
	Hogs					Pork excluding lard				
1938	36,186	9,416	45,602	13,325	58,927	4,884	1,111	5,995	1,685	7,680
1939	41,368	11,213	52,581	13,980	66,561	5,552	1,337	6,889	1,771	8,660
1940	50,398	13,057	63,455	14,155	77,610	6,614	1,632	8,246	1,798	10,044
1941	46,520	12,088	58,608	12,789	71,397	6,345	1,559	7,904	1,624	9,528
1942	53,897	12,117	66,014	12,533	78,547	7,562	1,672	9,234	1,642	10,876
1943	63,431	17,779	81,210	14,016	95,226	9,308	2,454	11,762	1,878	13,640
1944	69,017	15,500	84,517	13,551	98,068	9,456	2,046	11,502	1,802	13,304
1945	40,960	17,300	58,260	13,631	71,891	6,387	2,456	8,843	1,854	10,697
1946	44,394	18,000	62,394	13,850	76,244	6,642	2,592	9,234	1,939	11,173
1947	49,116	12,813	61,929	12,781	74,710	7,080	1,731	8,811	1,790	10,601
1948	47,615	12,054	59,669	12,267	71,936	6,832	1,654	8,486	1,719	10,205
1949	53,032	10,712	63,744	11,549	75,293	7,352	1,393	8,745	1,538	10,333
1950	56,964	11,540	68,504	10,984	79,488	7,788	1,477	9,265	1,486	10,751
1951	62,054	12,497	74,551			8,407	1,594	10,001	2/1,569	11,570
	Lard production 3/					All meat excluding lard				
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds					
1938	1,034				1,728	10,983	3,481	14,464	2,015	16,479
1939	1,272				2,037	11,608	3,820	15,428	2,106	17,534
1940	1,527				2,288	12,848	4,094	16,942	2,134	19,076
1941	1,526				2,228	13,425	4,183	17,613	1,956	19,569
1942	1,724				2,401	15,451	4,459	19,910	2,002	21,912
1943	2,080				2,865	16,829	5,397	22,226	2,256	24,482
1944	2,367				3,054	17,921	5,012	22,933	2,245	25,178
1945	1,311				2,066	15,359	6,002	21,361	2,326	23,687
1946	1,344				2,138	13,795	6,724	20,519	2,437	22,956
1947	1,722	277	1,899	427	2,426	16,236	4,943	21,179	2,251	23,430
1948	1,680	252	1,932	424	2,356	14,721	4,582	19,303	2,143	21,446
1949	1,923	247	2,170	382	2,552	15,632	4,082	19,714	1,996	21,710
1950	2,009	284	2,293	352	2,645	16,040	4,191	20,231	1,878	22,109
1951	2,225	306	2,531			15,886	4,145	20,031	2/ 1,964	21,995

1/ Beginning 1940, excludes slaughter and meat production under Federal inspection in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands.
2/ Preliminary estimate. 3/ Including rendered pork fat.

Table A-8.- Livestock slaughtered and meat produced under Federal inspection and in other commercial establishments, United States, by months 1950 and 1951

Year and month	Cattle						Calves					
	Slaughter			Beef production			Slaughter			Veal production		
	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1950												
Jan.	1,103	411	1,514	592	188	780	465	337	802	50	37	87
Feb.	939	358	1,297	510	166	676	443	339	782	44	36	80
Mar.	1,081	404	1,485	589	186	775	586	405	991	56	40	96
Apr.	959	364	1,323	526	168	694	494	341	835	50	37	87
May	1,075	410	1,485	585	189	774	496	353	849	53	40	93
June	1,066	397	1,463	571	182	753	485	330	815	57	40	97
July	1,070	404	1,474	570	184	754	443	324	767	56	41	97
Aug.	1,184	432	1,616	632	197	829	484	354	838	65	43	108
Sept.	1,196	423	1,619	640	192	832	488	346	834	65	42	107
Oct.	1,169	419	1,588	623	191	814	515	356	871	64	41	105
Nov.	1,151	405	1,556	611	183	794	505	339	844	59	39	98
Dec.	1,110	371	1,481	602	171	773	446	299	745	48	34	82
Year	13,103	4,798	17,901	7,051	2,197	9,248	5,850	4,123	9,973	667	470	1,137
1951 1/												
Jan.	1,160	420	1,580	642	200	842	433	326	759	45	36	81
Feb.	887	334	1,221	490	160	650	375	279	654	37	29	66
Mar.	965	336	1,301	534	162	696	447	313	760	42	31	73
Apr.	894	333	1,227	499	159	658	406	272	678	39	28	67
May	986	342	1,328	552	164	716	414	258	672	43	28	71
June	787	324	1,111	435	156	591	406	240	646	49	29	78
July	920	367	1,287	503	173	676	408	257	665	54	32	86
Aug.	1,064	444	1,508	558	210	768	422	304	726	59	39	98
Sept.	956	418	1,374	502	196	698	373	293	666	51	36	87
Oct.	1,140	463	1,603	581	209	790	500	336	836	68	38	106
Nov.	1,122	394	1,516	588	181	769	457	296	753	57	34	91
Dec.	998	326	1,324	547	153	700	344	258	602	39	29	68
Year	11,879	4,501	16,380	6,431	2,123	8,554	4,985	3,432	8,417	583	389	972

Year and month	Sheep and Lambs						Hogs						All meat production excluding lard		
	Slaughter			Lamb and mutton production			Slaughter			Pork production excluding lard					
	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Other wholesale and retail	Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1950															
Jan.	1,077	93	1,170	51	4	55	5,844	1,177	7,021	804	150	954	1,497	379	1,876
Feb.	863	74	937	43	3	46	4,191	1,018	5,209	559	127	686	1,156	332	1,488
Mar.	939	81	1,020	46	3	49	5,020	1,049	6.069	661	131	792	1,352	360	1,712
Apr.	833	89	922	40	4	44	4,316	910	5,226	574	114	688	1,190	323	1,513
May	941	93	1,034	43	4	47	4,339	895	5,234	593	112	705	1,274	345	1,619
June	1,019	102	1,121	44	4	48	4,154	813	4,967	605	105	710	1,277	331	1,608
July	960	102	1,062	41	5	46	3,314	716	4,030	515	93	608	1,182	323	1,505
Aug.	1,076	117	1,193	47	5	52	3,626	816	4,442	520	105	625	1,264	350	1,614
Sept.	1,063	101	1,164	47	4	51	4,137	862	4,999	547	111	658	1,299	349	1,648
Oct.	1,081	99	1,180	47	4	51	5,102	1,004	6,106	665	132	797	1,399	368	1,767
Nov.	969	90	1,059	43	4	47	6,144	1,105	7,249	821	145	966	1,534	371	1,905
Dec.	918	72	990	42	3	45	6,777	1,175	7,952	924	152	1,076	1,616	360	1,976
Year	11,739	1,113	12,852	534	47	581	56,964	11,540	68,504	7,788	1,477	9,265	16,040	4,191	20,231
1951 1/															
Jan.	1,058	74	1,132	50	3	53	6,584	1,300	7,884	896	169	1.065	1,633	408	2,041
Feb.	740	50	790	36	2	38	4,159	1,063	5,222	571	133	704	1,134	324	1,458
Mar.	738	61	799	37	2	39	5,117	1,051	6,168	684	133	817	1,297	328	1,625
Apr.	657	63	720	33	2	35	4,989	976	5,965	672	123	795	1,243	312	1,555
May	657	65	722	31	3	34	4,952	927	5,879	665	117	782	1,291	312	1,603
June	811	74	885	36	3	39	4,700	871	5,571	673	113	786	1,193	301	1,494
July	863	85	948	38	4	42	3,826	765	4,591	577	99	676	1,172	308	1,480
Aug.	889	112	1,001	39	5	44	4,236	988	5,224	615	126	741	1,271	380	1,651
Sept.	827	111	938	37	4	41	4,398	970	5.368	579	122	701	1,169	358	1,527
Oct.	1,084	119	1,203	47	5	52	5,650	1,174	6,824	718	152	870	1,414	404	1,818
Nov.	922	88	1,010	43	3	46	6,531	1,198	7,729	851	156	1,007	1,539	374	1,913
Dec.	810	70	880	38	3	41	6,912	1,214	8,126	906	151	1,057	1,530	336	1,866
Year	10,056	972	11,028	465	39	504	62,054	12,497	74,551	8,407	1,594	10,001	15,886	4,145	20,031

1/ Preliminary.

Table A-9.- Average live weight and average production of meat and lard per head of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months 1950 and 1951

Average live weight per head

Year and month	Cattle		Calves		Sheep and lambs		Hogs	
	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1950								
January	993	958	196	196	100	100	247	242
February	1,000	964	181	185	104	103	239	234
March	995	960	170	173	103	102	234	231
April	991	956	181	186	100	99	238	234
May	985	953	193	198	95	95	245	240
June	974	945	209	213	90	90	264	258
July	973	942	226	225	91	91	278	269
August	974	943	241	232	93	93	259	252
September	983	949	241	231	93	93	233	230
October	988	954	225	218	93	93	230	228
November	998	963	214	214	95	94	237	235
December	1,017	983	200	202	97	96	245	241
Year	989	956	206	206	96	95	244	240
1951 1/								
January	1,022	988	193	195	100	100	250	245
February	1,017	984	176	179	103	103	245	239
March	1,007	977	162	167	105	104	240	236
April	1,004	974	169	174	104	103	242	237
May	997	969	183	188	100	99	244	240
June	978	952	209	212	93	93	261	255
July	978	950	233	230	93	93	276	267
August	962	938	250	240	95	94	262	253
September	970	941	247	236	95	94	236	232
October	973	942	246	230	96	95	231	229
November	990	961	231	221	100	99	236	233
December	1,008	978	204	207	100	99	241	237
Year	992	962	209	207	98	97	246	241

Average production of meat and lard per head

Year and month	Beef		Veal		Lamb and mutton		Pork		Lard	
	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1950										
January	539.3	515.2	109.1	108.4	47.8	47.0	137.9	135.9	37.0	34.8
February	546.0	521.1	100.9	102.4	49.3	49.1	133.7	131.7	35.2	33.0
March	547.3	521.9	95.5	96.9	49.1	48.0	132.8	130.5	33.5	32.3
April	551.0	524.6	101.9	104.3	48.1	47.7	133.3	131.6	35.1	33.3
May	546.6	521.0	108.5	109.5	46.1	45.5	137.0	134.7	36.0	34.2
June	538.9	514.7	117.3	119.0	43.0	42.8	146.0	143.0	39.5	37.5
July	535.4	511.5	126.7	126.5	43.5	43.3	155.8	150.9	40.4	38.0
August	536.0	513.2	134.5	128.8	44.1	43.6	143.6	140.7	37.5	35.1
September	537.5	513.9	133.3	128.3	44.2	43.8	132.6	131.6	31.8	30.4
October	535.3	512.7	124.3	120.5	44.1	43.2	130.7	130.5	31.8	30.5
November	533.7	510.2	117.0	116.2	44.9	44.4	133.9	132.4	32.8	31.3
December	546.1	522.1	109.4	110.1	45.9	45.5	136.6	135.3	35.8	33.8
Year	540.8	516.6	114.7	114.0	45.7	45.2	137.0	135.2	35.4	33.5
1951 1/										
January	556.0	533.0	105.2	106.7	47.6	46.8	136.4	135.1	38.0	35.6
February	555.3	532.4	99.6	101.0	49.1	48.1	137.5	134.8	35.3	32.7
March	557.0	535.0	93.5	96.0	49.7	48.8	134.0	132.5	34.4	32.6
April	560.3	536.1	97.2	98.9	49.9	48.6	135.0	133.3	34.8	32.9
May	563.2	539.1	104.5	105.7	48.2	47.1	134.7	133.0	36.4	34.7
June	555.7	532.2	120.5	120.7	44.6	44.0	143.5	141.1	39.0	36.8
July	549.5	525.4	132.6	129.2	44.4	44.3	151.2	147.3	41.2	38.6
August	527.0	509.2	140.5	135.0	44.6	43.9	145.5	141.8	37.6	34.8
September	527.8	507.7	137.7	130.7	44.7	43.7	132.0	130.6	34.1	32.4
October	512.8	493.0	136.4	126.8	44.2	43.2	127.4	127.5	32.7	31.1
November	527.6	507.2	126.0	120.9	46.8	45.5	130.5	130.3	33.9	32.5
December	551.2	528.6	113.5	112.9	47.1	46.6	131.3	130.1	35.7	34.1
Year	544.3	522.8	117.6	115.5	46.6	45.7	135.8	134.1	35.9	33.9

1/ Preliminary.

Table A-10.- Meat and lard produced per 100 pounds live weight of livestock slaughtered under Federal inspection and in all commercial establishments, by months, 1947-51. 1/

Year and month	Beef		Veal		Lamb and mutton		Pork 2/		Lard 2/	
	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial	Federally inspected	Total commercial
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1947										
January	52.6	52.3	55.2	54.8	46.1	45.9	55.7	56.6	14.8	13.8
February	53.7	53.2	56.0	55.5	45.9	45.8	56.7	57.2	14.2	13.4
March	53.8	53.3	56.2	55.7	46.1	45.9	56.3	57.0	14.4	13.5
April	54.6	53.9	56.5	56.1	46.1	45.9	56.8	57.4	14.0	13.1
May	54.7	54.0	55.9	55.7	46.9	46.6	56.4	56.7	14.5	13.9
June	53.9	53.3	55.5	55.4	47.5	47.3	55.9	56.3	14.7	14.0
July	53.2	52.8	55.6	55.5	47.3	47.1	55.5	56.0	14.9	14.2
August	52.1	51.8	54.6	54.7	46.4	46.2	56.8	57.3	14.0	13.2
September	51.5	51.3	54.9	55.0	46.5	46.2	57.5	58.2	12.9	12.1
October	50.6	50.5	54.3	54.3	45.3	45.0	58.6	59.2	12.1	11.4
November	50.3	50.1	53.3	53.5	45.2	45.0	59.1	59.5	12.0	11.4
December	51.2	51.0	53.5	53.4	45.7	45.5	57.4	58.1	13.5	12.7
Year	52.6	52.2	55.0	54.9	46.2	46.0	56.9	57.5	13.8	13.0
1948										
January	52.0	51.8	54.6	54.5	46.2	46.0	56.4	57.2	14.2	13.3
February	53.1	52.7	55.2	54.9	46.3	46.1	55.8	56.8	14.8	13.6
March	54.1	53.5	56.2	55.7	46.4	46.3	56.8	57.9	14.3	13.0
April	54.7	53.9	57.0	56.5	45.9	45.7	58.0	58.7	13.3	12.2
May	54.0	53.4	56.1	55.8	46.4	46.2	57.2	57.8	13.6	12.8
June	52.8	52.4	55.5	55.5	46.6	46.3	56.4	56.9	14.6	13.9
July	52.5	52.1	55.8	55.7	46.7	46.5	56.0	56.6	14.4	13.7
August	52.2	51.9	55.3	55.4	46.3	45.9	56.5	57.2	13.8	12.9
September	52.2	52.0	55.1	55.1	46.3	46.0	57.8	58.5	12.7	11.9
October	51.5	51.4	54.4	54.5	45.0	44.7	58.5	58.9	12.6	12.0
November	51.5	51.3	54.2	54.3	45.7	45.4	57.5	57.9	13.5	12.9
December	52.7	52.2	54.5	54.0	46.4	46.2	56.1	56.7	14.9	14.1
Year	52.7	52.3	55.2	55.1	46.2	45.9	56.8	57.5	14.0	13.2
1949										
January	54.2	53.7	55.2	55.0	46.6	46.5	55.7	56.2	15.5	14.7
February	54.7	54.1	55.8	55.5	46.7	46.6	55.4	56.1	15.4	14.5
March	55.4	54.6	56.3	55.9	46.2	46.1	56.1	56.6	15.1	14.3
April	56.0	55.2	56.5	56.1	47.1	46.9	56.3	56.6	14.7	14.0
May	56.1	55.2	56.8	56.3	47.5	47.3	56.0	56.4	15.1	14.0
June	55.2	54.4	56.2	56.0	47.6	47.3	56.1	56.4	14.6	14.1
July	55.0	54.3	56.0	55.8	47.2	46.9	55.7	56.0	15.1	14.5
August	54.5	54.0	55.8	55.7	46.9	46.7	56.1	56.5	14.4	13.7
September	53.6	53.2	54.8	54.8	47.1	46.8	57.2	57.5	13.5	12.9
October	53.1	52.8	54.7	54.6	46.8	47.1	56.3	56.7	14.1	13.5
November	52.7	52.3	54.5	54.3	47.6	47.4	56.6	56.9	14.1	13.5
December	53.4	52.9	54.9	54.5	47.6	47.4	56.1	56.3	14.8	14.3
Year	54.5	53.9	55.5	55.3	47.1	46.9	56.1	55.2	14.7	14.0
1950										
January	54.3	53.8	55.6	55.2	47.6	47.5	55.9	56.2	15.0	14.4
February	54.6	54.1	55.7	55.4	47.6	47.4	56.0	56.3	14.7	14.1
March	55.0	54.3	56.2	55.8	47.6	47.4	56.4	56.5	14.6	14.0
April	55.6	54.9	56.4	56.0	48.0	47.8	56.0	56.2	14.8	14.2
May	55.5	54.7	56.3	55.7	48.4	48.1	55.9	56.1	14.7	14.2
June	55.3	54.5	56.0	55.8	47.8	47.5	55.3	55.5	15.0	14.5
July	55.0	54.3	56.1	55.8	47.7	47.5	56.1	56.2	14.5	14.1
August	55.0	54.4	55.7	55.7	47.3	47.1	55.4	55.8	14.5	13.9
September	54.7	54.2	55.4	55.4	47.5	47.2	57.0	57.2	13.7	13.2
October	54.2	53.7	55.2	55.1	47.3	47.0	56.9	57.1	13.8	13.3
November	53.5	52.9	54.6	54.3	47.2	46.9	56.4	56.7	13.8	13.3
December	53.7	53.2	54.8	54.5	47.3	47.1	55.7	56.1	14.6	14.0
Year	54.7	54.1	55.7	55.4	47.6	47.4	56.1	56.3	14.5	13.9
1951										
January	54.4	53.9	56.2	54.7	47.6	47.4	54.6	55.1	15.2	14.5
February	54.6	54.1	56.6	56.1	47.5	47.3	56.1	56.5	14.4	13.7
March	55.3	54.7	57.7	57.0	47.2	47.0	55.8	56.1	14.3	13.8
April	55.8	55.1	57.4	56.7	48.0	47.8	55.9	56.2	14.4	13.9
May	56.5	55.6	57.0	56.4	48.4	48.1	55.1	55.4	14.9	14.4
June	56.8	55.9	57.7	57.2	47.8	47.5	55.0	55.3	15.0	14.4
July	56.2	55.3	56.8	56.4	47.5	47.2	54.8	55.1	14.9	14.4
August	54.8	54.3	56.3	56.1	47.1	46.7	55.6	56.0	14.4	13.8
September	54.4	53.9	55.7	55.5	47.2	46.9	55.9	56.2	14.5	13.9
October	52.7	52.3	55.5	55.2	46.3	45.9	55.2	55.8	14.2	13.6
November	53.3	52.8	54.6	54.5	46.9	46.6	55.4	55.8	14.4	13.9
December	54.7	54.0	55.7	55.0	47.3	47.1	54.4	54.8	14.8	14.3
Year	54.9	54.2	56.2	55.8	47.4	47.1	55.2	55.7	14.6	14.1

1/ Data for Federal inspection based on numbers slaughtered excluding condemned.

2/ Production of pork and lard. Weight of pork excludes head bones. Pork plus lard yield is less than reported "dressing percentage" for hogs.

Table A-11.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1930-50

	Live weight of mktgs. 1/			Meat animal mktgs.,	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 2/				Gross income 2/ 3/			
	Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	Index no., 1935-39=100	Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	All meat animals	Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Hogs	All meat animals
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1930	14,653	2,206	12,221	---	1,184	162	1,135	2,481	1,204	163	1,369	2,736
1931	14,438	2,505	12,801	---	838	130	774	1,742	854	132	950	1,936
1932	13,960	2,222	12,505	---	621	93	445	1,159	635	95	557	1,287
1933	15,165	2,226	13,282	---	599	105	524	1,228	614	107	631	1,352
1934	20,350	2,555	11,878	---	813	132	520	1,465	828	134	646	1,608
1935	17,037	2,316	7,330	88	1,062	152	682	1,896	1,084	155	890	2,129
1936	18,318	2,314	9,973	104	1,114	166	991	2,271	1,134	168	1,234	2,536
1937	17,051	2,321	9,146	96	1,239	186	925	2,350	1,261	188	1,161	2,610
1938	17,057	2,460	10,638	102	1,162	157	870	2,189	1,184	159	1,065	2,408
1939	17,385	2,431	12,327	110	1,290	172	810	2,272	1,312	174	981	2,467
1940	17,529	2,448	14,837	118	1,376	180	838	2,392	1,400	182	984	2,566
1941	18,628	2,563	13,765	119	1,705	226	1,302	3,233	1,732	229	1,518	3,479
1942	20,472	2,925	16,300	132	2,263	306	2,198	4,767	2,300	309	2,507	5,116
1943	20,866	3,042	20,748	152	2,562	342	2,929	5,833	2,606	346	3,302	6,254
1944	23,117	2,801	20,833	159	2,604	300	2,801	5,705	2,652	304	3,134	6,090
1945	26,839	2,835	15,738	149	3,290	319	2,298	5,907	3,346	323	2,674	6,343
1946	24,964	2,673	16,233	146	3,722	362	2,961	7,045	3,793	366	3,449	7,608
1947	25,902	2,274	16,015	147	4,932	403	4,005	9,340	5,017	408	4,635	10,060
1948	22,856	2,087	15,471	135	5,231	413	3,715	9,360	5,326	419	4,307	10,052
1949	23,561	1,786	17,045	139	4,838	354	3,190	8,383	4,920	359	3,627	8,906
1950	23,846	1,708	17,795	147	5,716	390	3,297	9,402	5,808	395	3,697	9,900

1/ Excludes interfarm sales.
2/ Does not include Government payments.
3/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.

Table A-12 .- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals by classes, and index numbers of prices received for meat animals, United States, by months, 1935 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Wt. av. 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
							Beef cattle						
1935	5.17	5.93	6.57	6.94	7.10	6.80	6.27	6.18	6.08	5.81	5.67	5.95	6.04
1936	6.11	6.03	6.04	6.29	6.20	5.98	5.60	5.52	5.72	5.58	5.68	6.01	5.82
1937	6.60	6.63	7.02	7.26	7.46	7.48	7.67	7.40	7.36	6.79	6.33	6.15	7.00
1938	6.21	6.02	6.35	6.52	6.50	6.65	7.14	6.70	6.79	6.63	6.62	6.67	6.54
1939	6.97	7.12	7.26	7.35	7.33	7.05	6.91	6.74	7.36	7.25	7.14	7.11	7.14
1940	7.19	7.03	7.16	7.32	7.51	7.28	7.48	7.51	7.77	7.78	7.88	7.84	7.56
1941	8.37	8.31	8.27	8.55	8.51	8.61	8.73	9.04	9.32	9.14	8.82	9.34	8.82
1942	9.72	9.89	10.10	10.50	10.60	10.70	10.70	11.10	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.20	10.70
1943	11.76	12.32	12.76	13.00	12.88	12.70	12.40	12.00	11.70	11.10	10.60	10.90	11.90
1944	11.20	11.60	12.00	12.10	12.00	11.70	10.90	10.30	10.10	9.71	9.79	10.10	10.80
1945	11.00	11.60	12.50	13.10	13.40	13.40	13.00	12.40	11.80	11.50	11.30	11.50	12.10
1946	12.00	12.60	13.10	13.60	13.70	13.80	15.70	15.70	13.80	16.00	16.20	16.50	14.50
1947	16.70	17.00	18.00	18.30	18.80	19.30	19.50	19.00	19.00	18.30	18.20	19.50	18.50
1948	21.30	20.10	21.50	22.50	23.90	24.40	25.20	23.70	23.30	21.20	20.80	20.40	22.20
1949	20.20	18.90	20.70	21.00	21.10	20.90	20.00	19.40	19.70	19.20	18.90	19.00	19.80
1950	19.70	20.50	21.20	21.90	23.10	23.70	24.40	24.20	24.60	24.20	24.60	25.20	23.20
1951	27.00	29.00	29.70	30.20	29.50	29.50	29.00	29.10	29.50	29.00	28.10	27.50	28.90
1952	27.20	27.60											
							Veal calves						
1935	5.92	6.58	7.13	7.34	7.07	7.20	6.86	7.23	7.75	7.74	7.73	7.92	7.16
1936	8.03	8.15	7.42	7.56	7.48	7.43	6.92	6.76	7.16	7.12	6.93	7.45	7.20
1937	8.29	7.93	7.91	7.95	7.85	7.91	8.15	8.50	8.66	8.32	8.04	7.83	8.10
1938	8.16	8.05	8.06	7.91	7.54	7.61	7.79	7.81	8.11	8.07	8.06	7.93	7.90
1939	8.23	8.66	8.64	8.35	8.24	7.98	8.06	8.08	8.81	8.80	8.59	8.40	8.40
1940	8.91	8.77	8.82	8.65	8.93	8.51	8.62	8.61	9.07	9.12	9.11	9.07	8.83
1941	9.71	10.10	9.78	9.86	9.91	9.91	10.23	10.50	11.20	11.06	10.75	11.18	10.30
1942	12.03	11.85	12.08	12.15	12.39	12.31	12.43	12.74	12.80	12.80	12.82	12.94	12.30
1943	13.55	14.11	14.40	14.22	14.26	14.20	13.90	13.60	13.40	13.00	12.40	12.50	13.30
1944	12.70	13.00	13.20	13.10	13.20	13.10	12.70	12.40	12.40	12.20	12.20	12.30	12.40
1945	12.90	13.20	13.50	13.90	13.80	13.80	13.90	13.30	12.90	12.70	12.60	12.60	13.10
1946	13.30	13.70	13.90	14.30	14.40	14.80	16.30	15.90	15.20	16.20	16.70	17.00	15.30
1947	18.00	19.00	19.60	19.40	20.20	20.90	20.80	20.70	21.40	21.00	21.10	21.90	20.40
1948	23.80	22.50	23.10	23.90	25.00	25.20	26.40	25.90	25.50	23.80	23.80	24.10	24.40
1949	24.70	23.80	24.20	24.40	23.70	23.30	22.10	22.00	21.90	21.70	21.70	22.00	22.70
1950	23.20	24.20	24.20	24.50	25.60	25.90	26.60	27.40	27.80	27.20	27.60	28.40	26.40
1951	30.80	33.30	33.50	33.90	33.20	33.40	32.50	32.60	32.80	32.70	31.60	31.30	32.60
1952	31.50	31.90											
							Hogs						
1935	7.05	7.36	8.46	8.17	8.23	8.66	8.72	10.64	10.58	9.71	8.57	8.80	8.65
1936	9.09	9.62	9.44	9.68	8.71	9.10	9.28	10.14	9.84	9.24	8.78	9.19	9.37
1937	9.58	9.38	9.38	9.21	9.62	10.24	10.99	11.77	10.83	9.92	8.26	7.55	9.50
1938	7.66	7.83	8.53	7.85	7.43	8.14	8.71	7.85	8.19	7.25	7.27	6.91	7.74
1939	6.97	7.30	7.14	6.59	6.34	5.91	5.96	5.30	6.88	6.50	5.82	4.97	6.23
1940	5.17	4.96	4.87	4.91	5.37	4.78	5.84	5.90	6.20	5.85	5.61	5.61	5.39
1941	7.47	7.29	7.16	8.16	8.31	9.12	10.32	10.48	11.24	10.13	9.70	10.32	9.09
1942	10.69	11.85	12.51	13.48	13.27	13.38	13.78	14.12	13.57	14.10	13.43	13.26	13.00
1943	14.07	14.63	14.67	14.34	13.89	13.60	13.20	13.70	14.10	14.00	12.90	12.80	13.70
1944	12.80	12.90	12.90	13.00	12.70	12.60	12.70	13.50	13.60	13.80	13.50	13.40	13.10
1945	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.20	14.20	14.00
1946	14.10	14.20	14.20	14.20	14.30	14.30	17.20	20.80	16.10	22.20	23.00	22.80	17.50
1947	21.90	24.30	26.50	23.90	22.20	22.10	22.00	23.60	26.70	27.10	24.30	25.20	24.10
1948	26.60	21.60	21.50	20.30	19.90	22.90	25.20	26.90	27.40	24.70	21.80	20.90	23.10
1949	19.60	19.30	20.00	18.30	17.90	18.80	18.60	19.40	19.80	17.60	15.60	14.80	18.10
1950	15.10	16.60	16.00	15.70	18.30	18.20	20.90	21.70	21.30	19.20	17.80	17.80	18.00
1951	20.00	22.00	21.20	20.60	20.40	21.10	20.80	21.20	19.70	20.30	18.00	17.60	20.20
1952	17.40	17.20											

- Continued

Table A-12.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals by classes, and index numbers of prices received for meat animals, United States, by months, 1935 to date-Continued

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Wt. av. 1/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
							Sheep						
1935	3.35	3.80	3.84	3.81	3.66	3.60	3.45	3.52	3.74	3.79	3.88	4.18	3.75
1936	4.33	4.28	4.36	4.47	4.31	4.01	3.93	3.70	3.62	3.52	3.59	3.85	3.77
1937	4.25	4.44	4.79	4.95	4.87	4.49	4.50	4.51	4.35	4.27	3.90	3.83	4.52
1938	3.70	3.65	4.03	3.94	3.64	3.43	3.48	3.42	3.38	3.38	3.57	3.70	3.58
1939	3.90	4.09	4.03	4.25	3.98	3.72	3.72	3.61	3.84	3.95	3.85	3.80	3.90
1940	3.95	4.02	4.37	4.27	4.13	3.91	3.69	3.66	3.76	3.82	4.01	4.10	3.95
1941	4.44	4.65	4.86	5.20	4.97	4.69	4.69	5.03	5.36	5.15	5.13	5.24	5.06
1942	5.52	5.71	5.85	6.03	6.03	5.60	5.46	5.52	5.50	5.44	5.48	5.92	5.80
1943	6.39	7.01	7.27	7.35	7.31	7.14	6.84	6.53	6.39	6.08	5.81	5.94	6.57
1944	6.11	6.57	6.80	6.97	6.74	6.59	6.09	5.77	5.52	5.61	5.61	5.83	6.01
1945	6.18	6.56	6.87	7.17	6.99	6.82	6.83	6.39	5.89	5.79	5.86	5.98	6.38
1946	6.34	6.62	6.87	7.01	7.06	7.23	8.14	7.14	7.52	8.43	7.70	7.55	7.48
1947	7.64	7.78	8.43	8.57	8.73	8.36	8.59	8.55	8.64	8.42	8.63	8.62	8.41
1948	9.29	9.31	9.44	9.48	10.50	10.30	10.20	10.20	9.67	9.07	8.93	8.81	9.66
1949	9.10	9.28	10.10	10.80	10.60	9.92	9.27	8.78	8.61	8.88	8.86	9.20	9.31
1950	9.69	10.30	11.10	11.10	11.00	10.40	10.40	11.10	11.80	12.90	13.30	13.80	11.50
1951	15.20	17.70	19.00	18.10	16.90	16.50	15.50	15.00	14.90	15.20	14.10	13.90	16.00
1952	13.40	13.30											
							Lambs						
1935	6.77	6.98	6.99	6.92	6.95	6.88	6.54	6.71	7.45	7.58	7.87	8.36	7.28
1936	8.53	8.55	8.36	8.69	8.85	8.70	8.21	7.87	7.67	7.50	7.44	7.26	8.05
1937	8.14	8.37	9.21	9.61	9.61	9.32	8.80	8.89	8.83	8.64	8.09	7.69	8.88
1938	7.39	6.77	7.55	7.40	7.10	7.16	7.17	6.87	6.76	6.65	7.06	7.31	7.05
1939	7.58	7.63	7.70	8.18	8.37	7.91	7.64	7.21	7.84	7.86	7.74	7.62	7.78
1940	7.79	7.84	8.31	8.46	8.59	8.47	8.17	7.81	7.82	7.86	8.02	8.09	8.10
1941	8.56	8.80	9.12	9.37	9.34	9.49	9.47	9.56	10.09	9.83	9.70	10.13	9.58
1942	10.56	10.69	10.62	10.85	11.60	11.98	11.81	12.05	11.90	11.83	12.04	12.49	11.70
1943	13.03	13.76	13.97	13.87	13.82	13.50	13.30	12.80	12.50	12.20	11.90	12.10	13.00
1944	12.50	13.20	13.50	13.60	13.40	13.10	12.60	12.20	12.10	12.10	12.10	12.30	12.50
1945	12.90	13.50	13.80	13.90	13.60	13.40	13.40	12.90	12.50	12.50	12.70	12.80	13.10
1946	12.90	13.40	13.70	14.00	14.10	14.30	15.90	16.40	15.70	17.40	18.50	18.70	15.60
1947	19.10	19.60	20.30	19.80	19.90	20.90	20.90	20.90	21.50	20.30	20.80	21.30	20.50
1948	22.20	20.80	21.10	21.20	23.30	24.90	26.10	24.80	23.30	21.90	21.90	21.80	22.80
1949	22.00	21.70	23.80	25.80	25.30	24.30	22.80	21.20	21.60	21.50	21.40	21.00	22.40
1950	21.70	23.00	24.00	24.10	24.70	24.80	24.70	25.00	25.70	26.00	26.80	27.60	25.10
1951	30.00	33.30	35.00	34.30	32.60	31.70	30.20	29.80	29.80	29.80	29.00	28.50	31.20
1952	28.20	26.80											
	Index numbers of prices received for meat animals January 1910-December 1914=100 2/												
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1935	95	104	116	117	119	119	115	126	126	119	111	116	115
1936	119	122	120	124	117	117	115	119	118	114	111	117	118
1937	125	124	128	130	134	137	143	146	140	129	115	109	130
1938	110	109	116	113	110	115	123	114	117	110	110	109	113
1939	112	116	116	113	112	106	105	100	115	112	107	101	110
1940	104	101	102	104	108	102	110	110	115	113	112	112	108
1941	128	127	126	135	136	141	150	153	161	153	147	156	143
1942	162	171	177	186	186	188	190	196	192	195	191	192	186
1943	203	212	216	216	212	208	203	202	202	196	184	186	203
1944	189	194	198	199	196	193	186	186	185	183	182	184	190
1945	194	201	209	215	217	216	214	210	205	202	202	203	207
1946	208	214	219	223	225	226	258	279	235	292	299	301	248
1947	298	317	339	325	320	324	325	331	351	346	329	346	329
1948	371	329	339	342	354	377	400	396	394	359	338	330	361
1949	323	309	327	324	319	323	316	310	319	301	286	280	311
1950	286	306	308	312	342	342	371	369	372	358	357	360	340
1951	391	425	428	428	418	422	414	416	411	410	387	379	411
1952	376	377											

1/ Annual State averages weighted by shipments and local slaughter. 2/ Includes production payments on beef cattle, sheep and lambs, 1945-46. Year averages are unweighted.

Table A-13.- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of cattle and calves, 1933 to date 1/

Year	Beef steers for slaughter 2/								Cows, Chicago 3/		Vealers,
	Chicago						Omaha,	Sioux		Canner	Chicago,
	Prime	Choice	Good	Commercial	Utility	All grades	all grades	City, all grades	Utility	and Cutter 5/	Choice and Prime
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1933	6.12	5.56	4.91		4.08	5.42	---	---	---	2.01	5.88
1934	7.84	6.94	5.53		4.29	6.76	---	---	---	2.05	6.10
1935	12.32	10.79	8.80		6.73	10.26	---	---	---	3.78	8.88
1936	9.97	8.82	7.85		6.58	8.82	---	---	---	4.04	9.30
1937	14.79	11.79	9.19		7.51	11.47	---	---	---	4.54	10.07
1938	10.71	9.14	7.88		6.77	9.39	---	---	5.54	4.63	9.52
1939	10.48	9.81	8.77		7.51	9.75	---	---	5.70	4.95	10.07
1940	11.86	10.48	8.84		7.51	10.43	---	---	5.42	4.90	10.61
1941	12.23	11.36	10.02		8.64	11.33	---	---	6.51	5.95	12.18
1942	15.19	13.90	12.22		10.40	13.79	---	---	8.35	7.60	14.48
1943	16.23	15.34	14.01		11.66	15.30	---	---	9.51	8.52	15.18
1944	17.05	15.73	13.87		11.25	15.44	---	---	8.68	7.54	14.86
1945	17.30	16.00	14.12		11.73	16.18	---	---	9.71	8.51	15.12
1946	20.24	19.32	17.36		13.75	19.16	---	---	10.52	9.36	16.87
1947	30.64	26.22	21.76		18.04	25.83	---	---	12.93	11.82	24.98
1948	35.24	30.96	26.31		22.16	30.88	---	---	18.01	16.58	29.02
1949	28.65	26.07	23.17		19.77	25.80	24.23	24.41	15.41	14.38	27.64
1950	32.43	29.68	26.08		22.86	29.35	27.88	27.98	19.03	16.48	31.08
1951	38.11	35.96	33.37	30.97	28.31	35.72	34.18	34.34	24.48	20.93	37.19

1/ All grade names are those in use in 1952. 2/ Corn Belt steers sold out of first hands for slaughter. 3/ Prices for cows of Good grade as used through 1950 may be found in this Situation, February 1950, page 42. The old Good grade is now a part of the Commercial grade, which includes also the upper half of the old Medium grade. 4/ Previous name was Common. However, data shown for July 1939 through 1949 are as reported for Cutter and Common. 5/ From July 1939 through 1949, average of prices for Cutter and Common and for Canner.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-14 .- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of hogs and sheep, 1933 to date

Year	Barrows and gilts, Chicago							Barrows and gilts, 7 markets 1/	Sows, Chicago	Lambs		Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago
	160-180 pounds	180-200 pounds	200-220 pounds	220-250 pounds	250-290 pounds	290-350 pounds	All weights			Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago 2/	Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha 3/	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1933	4.08	4.18	4.20	4.16	4.05	3.88	—	—	3.17	6.63	5.68	2.57
1934	4.71	4.93	5.05	5.09	5.07	4.99	—	—	4.06	7.89	6.43	3.15
1935	9.55	9.70	9.78	9.78	9.67	9.50	—	—	8.34	8.85	7.69	4.04
1936	10.12	10.27	10.35	10.34	10.19	9.96	—	—	8.70	9.86	8.22	4.20
1937	10.54	10.65	10.70	10.67	10.54	10.35	—	—	9.98	10.59	9.10	4.68
1938	8.54	8.62	8.64	8.56	8.36	8.11	8.27	8.13	7.34	8.39	7.39	3.82
1939	6.94	7.06	7.08	4/7.04	4/6.88	4/6.62	6.81	6.62	5.67	9.26	8.21	4.03
1940	5.71	5.95	6.03	5/6.03	6/5.93	7/5.78	5.80	5.62	5.31	9.65	8.53	4.18
1941	9.59	9.79	9.85	5/9.84	6/9.73	7/9.59	9.47	9.39	9.34	11.19	10.27	5.43
1942	13.63	13.90	13.99	5/13.99	6/13.95	7/13.90	13.69	13.54	13.73	13.81	12.02	6.60
1943	14.17	14.49	14.66	5/14.66	5/14.62	7/14.56	14.49	14.20	13.71	14.95	13.22	7.44
1944	13.57	13.98	14.14	5/14.14	6/13.94	7/13.70	13.77	13.53	12.75	15.22	12.70	6.89
1945	14.74	14.76	14.76	5/14.76	6/14.76	7/14.76	14.75	14.56	13.99	15.48	14.17	7.69
1946	17.68	17.93	17.97	5/17.96	6/17.94	7/17.88	18.42	17.85	18.31	18.65	16.46	8.25
1947	25.75	26.23	26.32	5/26.24	6/25.91	7/25.29	25.21	25.16	21.88	23.59	20.76	9.17
1948	25.14	25.55	25.61	5/25.40	6/24.77	7/23.87	23.27	23.35	22.58	25.96	22.36	11.59
1949	19.50	19.88	19.94	5/19.77	6/19.41	7/18.87	18.62	18.60	16.67	25.45	23.06	10.83
1950	18.91	19.46	19.59	5/19.51	6/19.25	7/18.84	18.39	18.42	17.72	27.30	27.52	12.67
1951	20.68	21.33	21.45	5/21.36	6/21.12	7/20.67	20.74	20.47	18.43	34.33	31.90	17.58

1/ Chicago, St. Louis N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul. 2/ Average of prices by months for marekt classes as reported in each month. Beginning 1932 reported classes change seasonally, comprising shorn lambs in about May, spring lambs in about June-September, and wooled lambs in all other months. Grade is that now in use (1952). 3/ Average prices for the months available. In some years, no prices are quoted for one to three months of few feeder shipments. 4/ Average of prices in January-June for market class of earlier years, and in July-December for class of later years. 5/ 220-240 pounds. 6/ 240-270 pounds. 7/ 270-300 pounds.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-15-Average price per 100 pounds for stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City and Choice grade slaughter steers at Chicago, by months 1934 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 2/
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
	Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/												
1934	4.00	4.55	4.55	4.69	4.75	4.08	3.71	3.76	4.05	3.92	3.98	4.07	4.07
1935	5.92	6.86	7.28	7.48	7.69	6.88	6.32	6.91	7.06	6.88	6.52	6.83	6.88
1936	7.07	6.95	7.51	7.23	7.12	6.56	5.34	5.53	5.81	6.01	6.32	6.46	6.39
1937	7.26	7.32	7.84	7.67	7.86	7.87	8.28	8.58	8.09	7.58	7.14	6.71	7.72
1938	6.98	7.04	7.60	7.55	7.72	7.51	7.80	7.54	7.42	7.47	7.77	8.00	7.54
1939	8.52	8.79	9.18	9.21	8.89	7.94	7.61	7.43	8.02	8.04	7.95	7.96	8.09
1940	8.07	8.12	8.97	9.06	9.18	8.05	8.09	8.53	8.41	8.52	8.81	8.76	8.53
1941	10.16	10.00	10.29	10.33	10.06	9.90	9.59	9.79	9.98	9.53	9.35	10.46	9.93
1942	10.57	10.69	11.47	11.93	12.00	11.83	11.09	12.05	11.64	11.83	12.62	12.24	11.75
1943	12.67	13.48	14.49	14.58	14.60	14.38	12.48	12.17	11.81	11.36	10.97	11.29	12.35
1944	11.60	12.95	13.06	12.76	12.84	11.65	10.93	11.50	11.34	11.50	11.96	11.49	11.78
1945	12.40	13.00	13.60	13.90	14.23	13.73	13.54	13.08	12.25	12.62	13.19	13.41	13.07
1946	13.56	14.71	15.22	15.86	15.82	15.72	15.53	15.51	15.99	16.42	16.30	17.63	15.87
1947	17.68	18.96	20.13	19.91	21.33	21.11	21.91	21.22	21.65	20.96	21.32	23.59	20.81
1948	26.31	24.15	25.57	26.62	27.60	26.96	28.25	27.40	25.42	24.41	24.52	23.26	25.54
1949	22.15	21.25	24.37	23.66	24.02	22.53	20.62	20.06	19.74	20.57	21.45	21.44	21.34
1950	22.94	24.13	25.32	25.79	27.19	27.44	27.48	26.90	26.90	26.92	28.46	29.45	26.67
1951	31.88	34.42	35.12	35.64	34.29	32.83	31.61	32.59	31.90	31.97	31.63	30.45	32.86
1952	31.19	32.06											
	Choice grade beef steers for slaughter, Chicago 3/												
1934	5.20	5.37	5.97	6.62	6.95	7.31	7.12	7.39	8.20	7.52	7.50	8.04	6.94
1935	9.90	11.11	11.43	11.91	11.54	10.57	10.04	10.71	10.70	10.81	10.55	10.62	10.79
1936	10.28	9.47	9.31	8.83	8.07	7.80	8.16	8.41	8.86	9.10	9.95	10.38	8.82
1937	10.88	10.90	11.51	11.15	11.46	11.96	13.83	13.97	13.88	13.39	11.42	9.69	11.79
1938	8.29	7.91	8.49	8.49	8.69	9.15	9.98	9.69	10.03	10.01	9.99	10.16	9.14
1939	10.35	10.23	10.64	10.33	9.92	9.29	9.26	9.03	10.20	9.68	9.52	9.44	9.81
1940	9.44	9.53	9.86	10.01	9.92	9.57	10.29	10.82	11.15	11.72	11.73	11.86	10.48
1941	12.21	11.64	11.12	11.07	10.54	10.74	11.11	11.58	11.56	11.36	11.24	12.41	11.36
1942	12.54	12.47	13.03	13.83	13.65	13.12	13.75	14.87	14.63	15.07	15.40	14.90	13.90
1943	15.05	15.53	15.92	15.91	15.59	15.50	15.06	15.29	15.27	14.92	14.98	14.89	15.34
1944	15.00	15.12	15.23	15.33	15.73	16.23	16.35	16.42	16.26	16.56	16.27	15.62	15.73
1945	15.35	15.42	15.81	16.11	16.16	16.16	16.17	15.98	16.15	16.45	16.56	16.45	16.00
1946	16.51	16.36	16.37	16.46	16.55	16.98	19.86	20.73	19.58	24.97	25.63	25.28	19.32
1947	23.93	23.79	24.05	23.45	24.22	25.72	27.64	28.27	29.43	29.55	29.12	29.62	26.22
1948	30.36	27.10	26.92	28.17	30.91	34.85	36.44	36.02	34.49	32.24	30.68	27.82	30.96
1949	24.72	22.99	24.19	24.37	24.92	26.37	25.96	26.50	28.22	29.63	29.35	29.91	26.07
1950	28.14	27.19	27.33	27.66	29.19	29.99	30.62	29.97	30.32	30.42	31.24	32.98	29.68
1951	34.77	35.98	36.67	36.93	36.52	35.68	35.47	35.85	36.68	36.31	36.09	34.78	35.96
1952	34.68	34.57											

1/ Average for all weights and grades. 2/ Weighted average. 3/ Grade name in use beginning 1951. Through 1950, data were originally reported as Good grade.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Table A-16.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers, parity price, and price received as percentage of parity, meat animals, 1932 to date 1/

Year	Beef cattle: Price received by farmers 2/	Beef cattle: Parity price 3/	Beef cattle: Price received as percentage of parity	Veal calves: Price received by farmers 2/	Veal calves: Parity price 3/	Veal calves: Price received as percentage of parity	Hogs: Price received by farmers 2/	Hogs: Parity price 3/	Hogs: Price received as percentage of parity	Lambs: Price received by farmers 2/	Lambs: Parity price 3/	Lambs: Price received as percentage of parity	Sheep: Price received by farmers 2/	Sheep: Parity price 3/	Sheep: Price received as percentage of parity
	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent
1932	4.27	6.72	64	5.02	8.37	60	3.39	9.01	38	4.56	7.29	62	2.31	5.61	41
1933	3.73	6.45	58	4.63	8.03	58	3.50	8.65	40	4.99	7.00	71	2.41	5.39	45
1934	4.10	6.94	59	4.89	8.64	57	4.22	9.31	45	6.09	7.53	81	2.98	5.79	52
1935	6.21	6.94	89	7.21	8.64	83	8.75	9.31	94	7.17	7.53	95	3.72	5.82	64
1936	5.90	6.88	86	7.37	8.57	86	9.34	9.23	101	8.14	7.47	109	4.00	5.74	70
1937	7.01	7.15	98	8.11	8.91	91	9.73	9.60	101	8.77	7.76	113	4.43	5.99	74
1938	6.57	6.83	96	7.92	8.50	93	7.80	9.16	85	7.10	7.41	96	3.61	5.71	63
1939	7.13	6.67	107	8.40	8.30	101	6.31	8.94	70	7.77	7.23	108	3.90	5.58	70
1940	7.48	6.72	111	8.85	8.37	105	5.42	9.01	60	8.10	7.29	111	3.97	5.64	70
1941	8.75	7.10	123	10.40	8.84	117	9.14	9.52	96	9.46	7.70	123	4.95	5.94	83
1942	10.60	8.08	132	12.40	10.10	124	13.10	10.80	121	11.50	8.76	132	5.67	6.74	84
1943	12.00	8.67	139	13.60	10.80	126	13.80	11.60	119	13.10	9.41	139	6.67	7.26	92
1944	11.00	9.11	121	12.70	11.30	112	13.10	12.20	108	12.70	9.88	129	6.18	7.59	82
1945	12.20	9.27	132	13.30	11.50	115	14.10	12.40	113	13.20	10.10	131	6.44	7.76	83
1946	14.40	10.40	139	15.10	12.90	117	17.30	13.90	124	15.40	11.20	137	7.30	8.65	84
1947	18.50	12.50	148	20.30	15.50	131	24.20	16.70	145	20.40	13.50	152	8.41	10.40	81
1948	22.40	13.40	167	24.40	16.70	146	23.30	18.00	129	22.70	14.60	156	9.60	11.20	85
1949	19.90	13.10	152	23.30	16.30	140	18.30	17.60	104	22.70	14.20	159	9.45	11.00	86
1950	23.10	17.40	133	26.30	19.50	135	18.20	19.20	95	24.70	19.10	129	11.30	10.70	105
1951	28.90	19.70	146	32.60	22.10	148	20.20	21.30	95	31.20	21.70	144	16.00	11.10	144

1/ Parity prices for meat animals through 1949 are computed from the standard formula in effect prior to January 1,1950. They are not affected by the revisions of January 1950. Parity prices for 1950 and 1951 are effective parity as currently published. 2/ Unweighted average of prices, by months. 3/ Through 1949, based on index of prices paid, interest and taxes as revised January 1950.

Table -A-17--Hog-corn price ratio, Chicago and United States, by months, 1932 to date 1/

Chicago, based on prices of barrows and gilts 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av. 3/
1937									11.3	15.6	16.3	14.2	
1938	13.5	14.8	15.9	14.2	14.3	15.5	16.2	16.3	16.9	17.7	16.7	14.3	15.5
1939	14.3	16.3	15.8	14.4	13.3	12.9	13.9	13.8	14.4	14.6	12.2	9.7	13.8
1940	9.2	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.3	7.9	9.7	10.1	10.5	9.9	9.6	10.4	9.4
1941	12.3	12.5	11.7	12.2	12.6	13.4	15.1	15.0	15.5	15.3	14.5	14.2	13.7
1942	14.0	15.4	16.4	17.5	16.5	16.9	16.9	17.5	17.4	19.4	17.3	15.7	16.7
1943	15.4	15.9	15.5	14.7	13.6	13.1	13.0	13.5	14.0	13.8	12.9	11.7	13.9
1944	11.8	11.9	12.1	11.8	11.4	11.4	11.9	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.0	12.5	12.2
1945	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.7	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.6	12.5	12.6
1946	12.7	12.6	12.3	12.3	10.3	9.7	8.4	11.4	8.6	12.7	17.4	17.3	12.1
1947	17.2	18.4	15.8	13.4	12.7	11.1	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.7	10.4	10.2	12.9
1948	10.0	10.0	9.4	8.6	8.8	10.2	13.1	15.2	16.0	17.6	16.6	15.0	12.5
1949	13.8	15.6	15.3	13.6	13.9	15.3	15.3	16.4	15.8	15.7	13.9	11.9	14.2
1950	12.0	13.0	12.3	11.5	12.8	13.2	15.1	15.6	14.2	12.9	11.5	11.2	12.4
1951	12.0	12.5	12.4	11.9	12.0	12.9	12.8	12.4	11.6	11.5	10.2	9.4	11.6
1952	9.3												
	United States, based on prices received by farmers for all hogs												
1932	10.7	10.5	12.0	11.2	9.4	9.2	14.3	13.4	13.3	14.5	15.2	13.8	12.3
1933	13.6	15.1	15.6	11.3	10.1	9.9	7.2	7.7	8.0	10.8	9.0	6.6	10.4
1934	6.7	8.5	8.2	7.3	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.4	7.9	6.7	6.6	6.0	7.0
1935	8.3	8.7	10.2	9.6	9.7	10.4	10.6	13.2	13.6	13.5	15.2	16.6	11.6
1936	17.0	17.3	16.7	16.9	14.5	14.8	11.6	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.5	13.0
1937	9.5	9.1	8.9	7.7	7.9	8.7	9.3	11.5	11.5	16.8	17.2	15.6	11.1
1938	14.7	15.1	16.6	14.9	14.1	15.6	16.2	16.2	17.1	17.3	18.2	16.0	16.0
1939	15.5	16.6	16.1	14.5	13.1	11.8	12.5	11.6	12.2	13.7	12.4	9.9	13.3
1940	9.7	9.1	8.7	8.4	8.5	7.5	9.3	9.4	10.0	9.8	9.9	10.3	9.2
1941	13.3	13.0	12.5	13.2	12.6	13.4	14.8	15.0	15.9	15.6	15.2	15.4	14.2
1942	14.7	15.5	16.0	16.9	16.3	16.3	16.6	16.9	16.4	18.2	17.7	16.5	16.5
1943	16.0	16.2	15.5	14.3	13.4	12.8	12.2	12.6	12.9	13.1	12.3	11.5	13.6
1944	11.3	11.4	11.5	11.3	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.5	11.7	12.2	12.7	12.6	11.6
1945	12.9	13.2	13.1	13.2	13.1	12.7	12.6	12.4	12.6	12.5	12.8	13.0	12.8
1946	12.8	12.8	12.5	12.2	10.6	10.1	8.8	11.6	9.3	13.1	18.1	18.7	12.6
1947	18.1	19.8	17.7	14.7	14.0	11.9	10.9	10.8	11.1	12.2	11.1	10.6	13.6
1948	10.8	11.2	10.2	9.3	9.2	10.6	12.5	14.1	15.4	17.9	18.0	17.0	13.0
1949	15.7	17.2	16.9	15.0	14.7	15.5	14.9	16.4	17.1	16.1	15.3	13.1	15.7
1950	13.1	14.3	13.4	12.5	13.7	13.4	14.5	15.1	14.8	14.0	13.0	12.3	13.7
1951	13.0	13.8	13.2	12.7	12.4	13.0	12.8	12.8	11.9	12.4	11.1	10.4	12.5
1952	10.4	10.4											

1/ Number of bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs. Chicago ratio not available before September 1937.
2/ Corn price is of No. 3 Yellow.
3/ Unweighted average of ratios for individual months.

Table A-18.- Index numbers of retail and wholesale prices of meat, United States, by months 1938 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
						Retail prices (1935-39=100)							
1938	94.9	91.1	94.5	96.8	96.9	99.7	102.9	102.1	102.8	98.7	96.9	96.0	97.8
1939	96.1	96.6	96.7	97.7	97.8	96.7	97.5	95.4	101.9	97.1	94.2	91.1	96.6
1940	89.9	88.5	89.2	90.7	92.4	93.2	96.9	98.2	102.4	98.8	96.6	96.2	94.4
1941	99.8	101.3	101.0	101.7	102.5	105.7	108.1	110.9	115.7	112.6	109.3	109.7	106.5
1942	114.7	115.5	117.7	119.1	123.1	123.7	124.2	125.4	126.2	126.5	126.8	127.6	122.5
1943	128.2	128.9	129.3	129.8	130.2	130.3	120.1	119.1	118.7	119.0	118.4	118.4	124.2
1944	118.3	118.2	118.1	118.0	117.8	117.9	117.9	117.8	117.7	117.6	117.6	117.8	117.9
1945	117.9	117.9	117.9	118.0	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.1	118.0	118.0	118.0	118.0
1946	118.0	118.1	118.1	119.4	120.1	120.4	165.6	181.7	181.4	178.4	197.9	190.5	150.8
1947	192.1	191.7	204.1	198.7	200.6	216.1	219.7	229.8	241.9	234.9	223.6	223.2	214.7
1948	233.4	218.0	218.2	229.5	242.0	255.2	263.0	269.3	265.9	254.3	243.1	235.4	243.9
1949	228.2	212.3	222.5	228.5	228.0	239.3	234.4	237.3	242.0	233.1	226.4	220.0	229.3
1950	217.9	220.2	224.1	224.6	238.4	246.7	257.4	259.6	260.2	252.0	249.6	253.8	242.0
1951	265.5	271.2	271.9	272.5	272.4	273.1	274.2	276.6	277.6	281.0	278.6	274.6	274.1
1952	273.8												
						Wholesale prices (1926=100)							
1939			82.6			79.5		78.1	89.3			71.7	
1940			71.6			76.5			89.1			83.9	
1941			88.7			95.7			107.8			102.6	
1942			112.4			121.8			123.9			122.5	
1943			125.4			118.9			112.5			112.2	
1944			112.5			112.5			113.0			113.5	
1945			113.7			113.8			113.8			113.8	
1946	113.8	113.8	115.9	116.6	116.6	116.6	184.7	192.7	136.5	178.0	210.6	199.2	147.5
1947	196.2	203.3	213.8	203.9	209.1	216.3	221.4	230.9	245.8	234.4	223.6	230.4	219.4
1948	248.0	230.7	240.6	251.5	262.3	265.1	277.2	279.6	277.4	255.0	240.0	230.8	254.9
1949	222.8	212.5	222.4	224.9	227.0	230.3	227.3	224.4	230.4	219.6	212.9	206.5	221.8
1950	208.3	216.3	213.6	214.9	234.0	241.4	260.1	258.3	259.5	240.8	240.5	251.9	236.6
1951	261.5	274.8	273.7	274.1	276.3	275.4	275.2	278.5	280.2	283.5	273.1	266.1	274.4

1/ Wholesale meat price indexes are available only as shown. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Retail price indexes for 1935-37 may be found in previous February issues of this Situation.

Table A-19.- Chicago wholesale price of steer beef and lamb carcasses and of composite pork products, and United States composite average retail prices for meat, 1932 to date

Year	Chicago wholesale price: Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 lb., per 100 lb. 1/	Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 lb., per 100 lb. 1/	Composite hog products, including lard: 72.84 lb., fresh products: Value	72.84 lb., fresh products: Per 100 lb.	71.32 lb., fresh and cured products: Value	71.32 lb., fresh and cured products: Per 100 lb.	United States composite average retail price 2/: Beef (Choice grade), per lb. 1/	Lamb per pound	Pork, including lard, per pound	All meat products per pound 3/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1932	---	12.99	4.79	6.58	6.55	9.18	24.2	21.7	14.7	20.0
1933	8.79	12.25	5.01	6.88	6.58	9.23	20.9	19.6	13.6	17.7
1934	10.38	14.44	7.72	10.60	9.17	12.86	22.7	23.4	17.4	20.6
1935	15.57	15.86	12.58	17.27	14.32	20.08	29.6	25.9	25.1	27.7
1936	13.21	17.00	11.29	15.50	13.23	18.55	27.8	27.1	23.5	26.3
1937	17.31	17.81	11.60	15.93	13.70	19.21	31.6	28.4	24.2	28.5
1938	14.39	15.74	9.55	13.11	11.50	16.12	27.9	26.4	21.1	25.1
1939	15.46	16.87	8.02	11.01	9.72	13.63	28.6	26.4	18.9	24.4
1940	16.11	16.95	6.84	9.39	8.32	11.67	28.7	26.1	16.5	23.3
1941	17.18	18.41	10.68	14.66	12.12	16.99	30.7	27.8	21.2	26.6
1942	19.98	22.94	14.06	19.30	15.98	22.41	34.1	32.4	26.2	30.9
1943	20,62	24.63	13.42	18.42	15.46	21.68	35.2	35.9	27.2	32.0
1944	19.88	23.68	12.74	17.49	14.69	20.60	33.4	35.1	25.6	30.4
1945	19.88	23.68	13.08	17.96	14.80	20.75	32.7	35.2	25.6	30.0
1946	27.81	31.08	17.92	24.60	20.37	28.56	41.8	42.1	33.4	38.5
1947	41.46	42.66	26.98	37.04	29.58	41.48	61.1	56.7	47.2	55.4
1948	50.03	49.00	26.51	36.39	29.94	41.98	73.7	64.3	47.5	62.0
1949	42.66	49.64	20.96	28.78	24.61	34.51	66.8	67.4	41.1	56.0
1950	47.09	4/51.46	20.54	28.20	23.83	33.41	73.5	69.6	40.6	59.1
1951	56.42	57.27	22.88	31.41	25.94	36.37	85.7	77.4	44.9	67.3

1/ Grade name in use 1952.
2/ For data for 1913-31 see Livestock and Meat Situation, January 1950, pages 14-15. Derived from "market basket" data.
3/ Note that this is a composite including lard, and is calculated for fixed quantities of each meat in all years.
4/ Price of 45-50 lb. carcass, used for four months.

Table A-20.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by years, 1924 to date

Year	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/: Value	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/: Index number, 1935-39=100	Disposable personal income per person 3/: Value	Disposable personal income per person 3/: Index number, 1935-39=100	Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
	Cents	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1924	26.7	34.00	116.8	601	117.8	5.7
1925	30.0	36.30	124.7	627	122.9	5.8
1926	31.1	36.90	126.8	641	125.7	5.8
1927	30.5	35.60	122.3	635	124.5	5.6
1928	31.5	36.10	124.1	644	126.3	5.6
1929	32.7	37.30	128.2	673	132.0	5.5
1930	30.8	34.60	118.9	595	116.7	5.8
1931	25.6	29.10	100.0	505	99.0	5.8
1932	19.5	22.30	76.6	381	74.7	5.9
1933	17.5	20.70	71.1	358	70.2	5.8
1934	20.9	25.90	89.0	406	79.6	6.4
1935	28.0	28.20	96.8	453	88.9	6.2
1936	26.7	29.80	102.3	513	100.7	5.8
1937	28.9	31.30	107.5	548	107.5	5.7
1938	25.5	27.90	95.8	501	98.3	5.6
1939	24.6	28.40	97.6	533	104.6	5.3
1940	22.9	28.40	97.6	569	111.6	5.0
1941	26.8	33.30	114.4	686	134.5	4.9
1942 4/	31.4	37.90	130.2	860	168.6	4.4
1943 4/	31.9	40.80	140.2	963	188.8	4.2
1944 4/	30.2	40.70	139.9	1,055	206.9	3.8
1945 4/	30.2	37.90	130.2	1,073	210.4	3.5
1946 4/	38.4	51.35	176.5	1,117	219.0	4.6
1947	56.2	75.34	258.9	1,169	229.2	6.4
1948	62.6	78.88	271.1	1,277	250.4	6.2
1949	56.8	70.74	243.1	1,243	243.7	5.7
1950	59.5	74.11	254.7	1,339	262.5	5.5
1951	65.8	79.25	272.3	1,436	281.6	5.5

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts. Note that this weights the price for each meat in each year by the quantity consumed in that year, and that lard is excluded.
2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each meat consumed per civilian consumer.
3/ Computed from income date of U.S. Department of Commerce, 1929-49. Estimates up to 1928 by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.
4/ Data affected by wartime controls.
See The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1950 for earlier data.

Table A-21.- Exports and imports of meat, product weight, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Exports				Imports for consumption		
	Beef and veal 2/	Lamb and mutton	Pork 3/	Sausage 4/	Beef and veal 2/	Lamb and mutton	Pork 5/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1930	19	1	277	5	64	6/	5
1931	17	1	160	4	22	6/	4
1932	13	6/	116	9	25	6/	6
1933	17	6/	142	8	44	6/	3
1934	22	1	151	9	48	6/	2
1935	13	1	89	5	86	6/	10
1936	14	6/	68	4	94	6/	42
1937	13	1	63	4	95	6/	75
1938	14	6/	96	4	82	6/	52
1939	15	6/	130	6	91	6/	41
1940	17	1	94	5	75	6/	6
1941	28	1	268	81	146	6/	12
1942	21	5	651	396	115	1	1
1943	41	124	1,091	398	114	1	8
1944	28	25	1,131	259	97	6/	6/
1945	94	10	673	93	71	6/	3
1946	425	11	362	62	18	6/	6/
1947	158	7	63	14	34	6/	6/
1948	15	2	29	5	208	3	1
1949	20	1	60	9	157	4	3
1950	17	6/	58	4	199	3	32
1951	12	6/	82	6	312	7	49

1/ Exports and imports of major meat products, in product weight as reported by the Department of Commerce. "Commercial exports" exclude shipments to territories. They include USDA exports (1941-49) and, in 1947-51, shipments for military-civilian feeding in U. S. occupied areas.
2/ Fresh beef and veal, pickled or cured, and canned beef.
3/ Fresh and canned, and hams, shoulders, bacon, Wiltshire sides, Cumberlands, and pickled pork. Also includes Tushonka (1945-47).
4/ All sausage, including canned, and sausage ingredients.
5/ Fresh, pickled, salted and other pork, hams, shoulders, bacon and sausage.
6/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Compiled from records of United States Department of Commerce.

Table A-22.- Meat exports and shipments to territories, and imports, carcass weight equivalent, 1936 to date 1/

Year	Commercial exports and shipments to territories: Beef and veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	All meats	Imports: Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	All meats
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
1936	54	2	118	174	226	2/	---	45	271
1937	51	2	114	167	227	2/	---	80	307
1938	53	2	152	207	200	2/	---	57	257
1939	52	2	192	246	219	2/	2/	45	264
1940	56	2	163	221	168	2/	2/	6	174
1941	56	6	111	173	257	2/	2/	12	269
1942	34	4	66	104	211	1	1	1	214
1943	29	3	38	70	225	1	7	8	235
1944	41	3	54	98	189	1	2/	2/	190
1945	37	5	34	76	127	1	2/	2	130
1946	38	3	75	116	19	1	2/	1	21
1947	192	12	110	314	64	1	2/	2/	65
1948	50	6	82	138	341	5	3	1	350
1949 3/	29	3	104	136	228	7	4	3	242
1950 3/	24	1	110	135	322	10	3	33	368
1951 3/ 4/	17	1	113	131	458	13	7	51	529
	Exports and shipments to territories by USDA								
1941	1	---	372	373					
1942	25	7	1,133	1,165					
1943	79	127	2,075	2,281					
1944	91	68	1,660	1,819					
1945	301	24	839	1,164					
1946	645	16	405	1,066					
1947	4	---	25	29					
1948	0	0	0	0					
1949	0	0	6	6					
1950	0	0	0	0					
1951	0	0	0	0					

1/ Carcass weight equivalent of all meat, including the meat content of minor meats and of mixed products. Exports exclude shipments for military-civilian feeding in U. S. occupied areas. Shipments to territories include shipments to all territories through 1948, and from 1949 to June 1951, shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands but since July 1951, no shipments to territories are included, as data are no longer reported. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds. 3/ Exports and shipments for 1949-51 not strictly comparable with earlier years (see footnote 1). 4/ Preliminary.

Data in this table are computed so as to show total withdrawals from and additions to the United States meat supply. They differ from data of table A-21 in that these are in terms of carcass weight equivalent; include shipments to territories in export data; exclude shipments for military-civilian feeding in all years since the program began in 1944 (table A-21 excludes these shipments only in 1944-46); and, in the case of USDA exports and shipments, is based on deliveries for export.
Data for 1910-35 are in The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 38.

Table A-23.- Feed balance sheet, units of livestock production, and animal units fed, feeding year beginning October, 1940-51

Item	Unit	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Supply	Million					
Production	tons	98.6	105.1	120.8	112.1	116.7
Stocks beginning of crop year 1/	do.	22.8	23.1	18.5	17.8	11.6
Wheat and rye fed	do.	2.6	5.9	12.9	14.3	8.9
Other grains fed 2/	do.	.2	.1	2.3	2.1	2.0
Byproduct feeds for feed	do.	16.3	16.6	18.0	18.2	18.9
Total supply	do.	140.5	150.8	172.5	164.5	158.1
Utilization						
Concentrates fed	do.	108.0	118.7	142.0	138.8	129.0
Other uses	do.	11.2	13.6	13.3	12.8	15.2
Total utilization	do.	119.2	132.3	155.3	151.6	144.2
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	do.	117.4	132.3	156.3	152.9	143.2
Stocks at end of crop year	do.	23.1	18.5	3/16.2	11.6	14.9
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Million	156.0	167.3	192.4	193.2	173.7
Units of livestock production	do.	155.3	170.0	193.5	191.3	176.4

Item	Unit	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951 4/
Supply	Million							
Production	tons	114.4	124.3	95.4	138.2	125.9	122.0	114.0
Stocks beginning of crop year 1/	do.	14.9	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	28.7
Wheat and rye fed	do.	7.9	4.2	6.0	3.7	4.5	3.0	4.9
Other grains fed 2/	do.	.2	.1	.1	.7	.7	1.0	1.1
Byproduct feeds for feed	do.	17.7	19.4	19.0	20.0	20.6	21.6	21.6
Total supply	do.	155.1	158.9	134.4	170.5	182.5	178.8	170.3
Utilization								
Concentrates fed	do.	133.3	123.9	112.2	123.5	132.9	130.3	133.5
Other uses	do.	13.3	19.3	13.6	17.7	17.1	20.3	19.0
Total utilization	do.	146.6	143.2	125.8	141.2	150.0	150.6	152.5
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	do.	144.2	145.0	126.5	139.7	151.3	150.1	152.3
Stocks at end of crop year	do.	10.9	13.9	7.9	30.8	31.2	28.7	18.0
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed	Million	167.9	160.4	154.1	160.0	165.3	171.3	174.2
Units of livestock production	do.	174.8	169.6	165.0	171.2	177.0	184.4	188.4

1/ Stocks in all positions of corn October 1, and oats and barley July 1. Beginning 1947 includes sorghum stocks. 2/ Imported grain fed. 3/ Exclusive of grain at interior mills, elevators and warehouses. 4/ Partly forecast.

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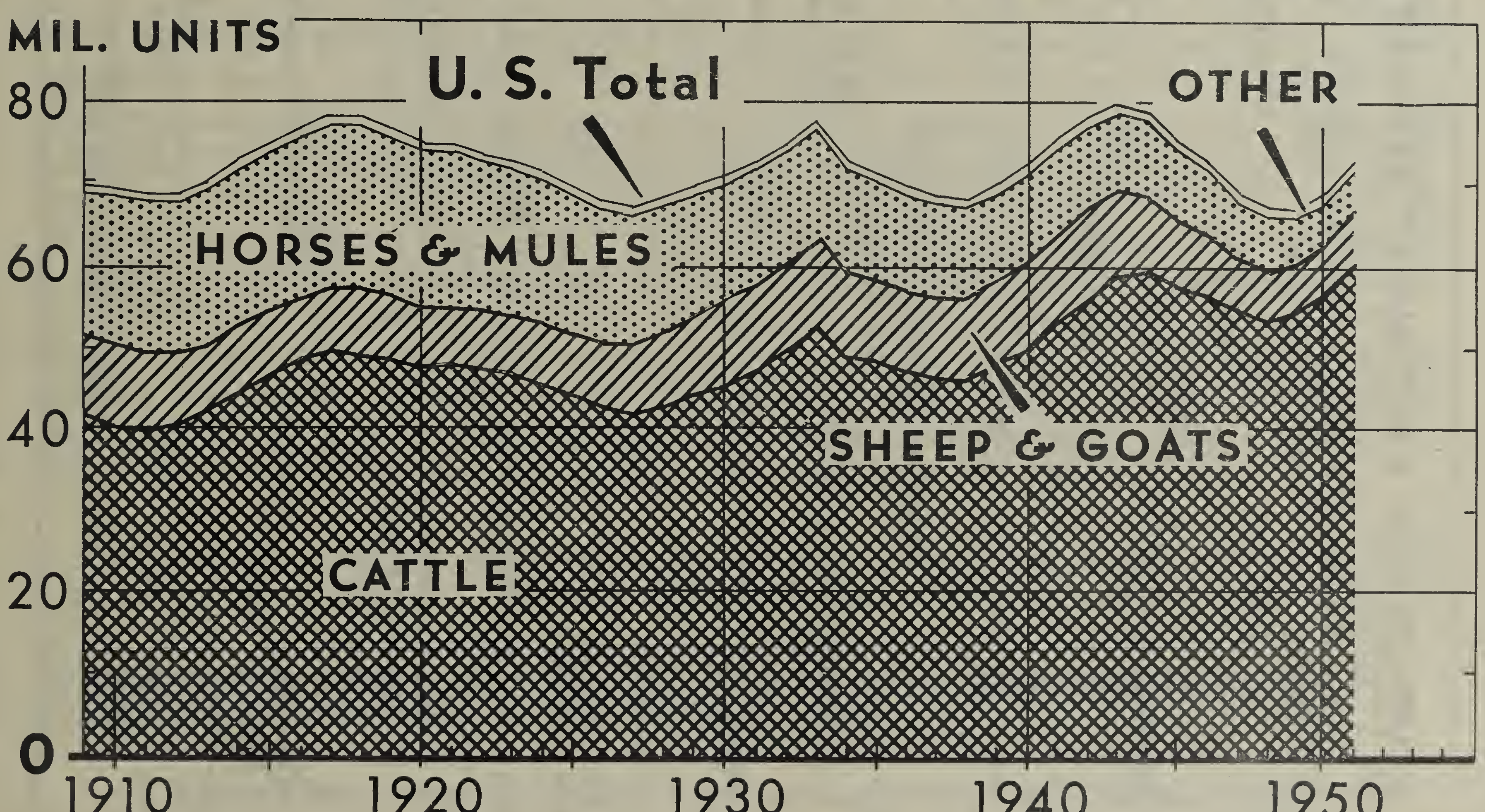
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-59 BAE MARCH - APRIL 1952

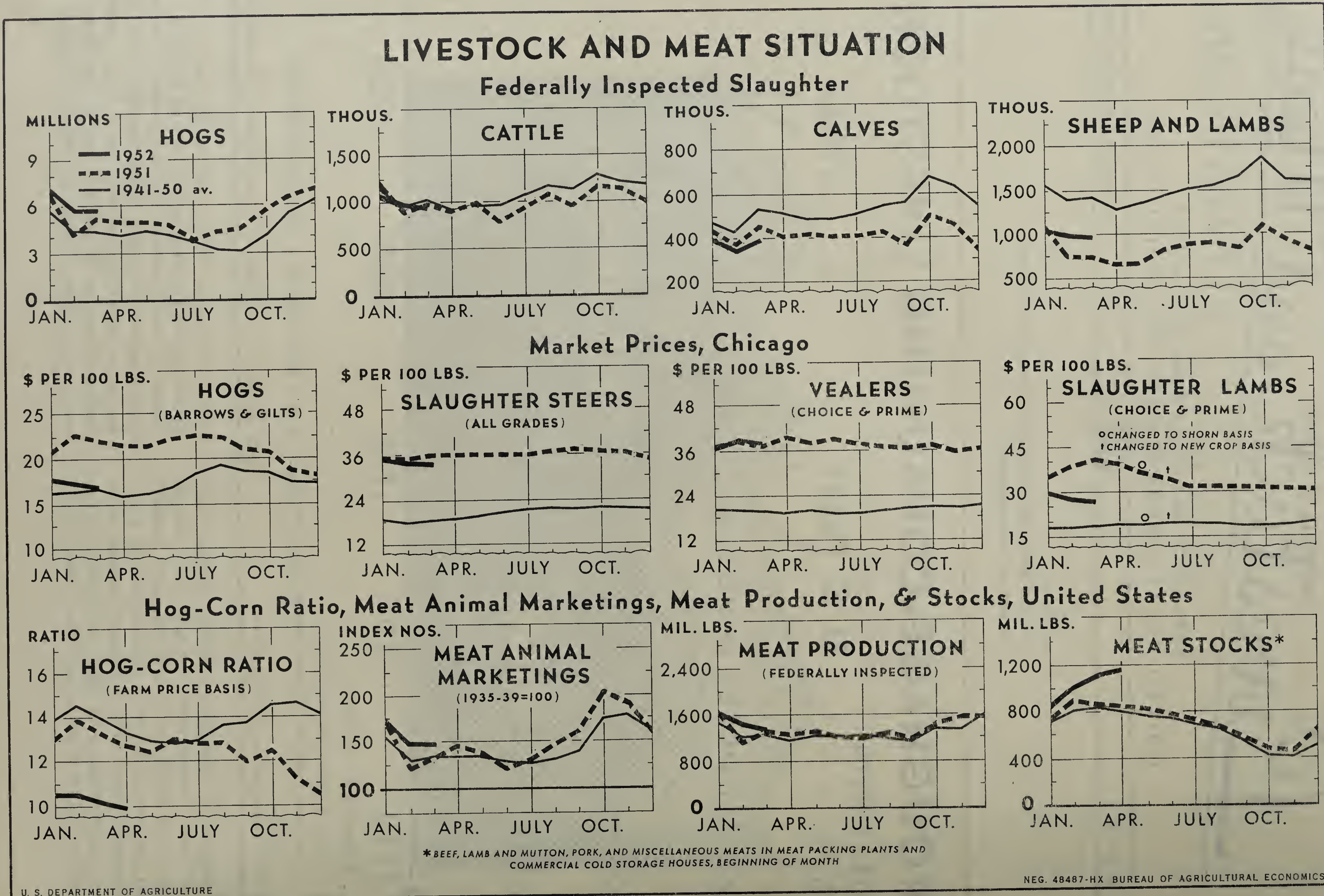
ROUGHAGE-CONSUMING LIVESTOCK*



*NUMBER OF UNITS FED
YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1
HAY, PASTURE AND OTHER ROUGHAGE CONSUMED BY ONE MILK COW IN A YEAR EQUALS ONE UNIT

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48529-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Numbers of roughage-consuming livestock have traced broad up-and down swings. They are now climbing, due chiefly to increasing cattle numbers. In past years when livestock numbers were at peaks, pastures and ranges were overgrazed in some areas. Notable improvements in hays and pastures have taken place in recent years, and fewer horses, mules and sheep are on farms than in previous periods. Assuming the improvement in hay and pastures continues, it would appear that our grazing resources could support a moderate further increase in the number of cattle within the next few years. A marked further expansion in the next few years, however, would raise question as to the adequacy of resources.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1952
1951
1941-50 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
THOUS.
CALVES
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48487-HX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 25, 1952

SUMMARY

Higher output of meat and lower prices for meat animals than last year have featured the livestock and meat situation to date in 1952. Commercial meat production in the first 3 months of 1952 was 8 percent larger than a year earlier and the largest for the quarter since 1946. Production of lamb and mutton was up 21 percent from last year and of pork 14 percent. Production of beef and veal was about the same as last year.

Meat production in the next few months promises to continue well above the small production of the same time last year. The increase over 1951 will narrow later in 1952, when there will be more beef than last year but less pork.

The rather large meat output so far in 1952 is resulting chiefly from expanded grain feeding of the past year. However, smaller supplies of grain feed, reflected in lower feeding-price ratios, are tending to restrict feeding. Since last September the number of sows farrowing has probably been below the previous year. As a result, marketings of hogs and production of pork the rest of 1952 are expected to be smaller than in the same period last year. Cattle on feed in the Corn Belt on April 1 were 3 percent above a year earlier after having been 6 percent above on January 1. Numbers on feed in Western States also were up less on April 1 than they had been on January 1. Marketings of fed cattle this spring and early summer will be large and will likely exceed last year. Marketings of fed cattle may continue to show some gain over 1951 in early and mid-fall, but seem less likely to do so later.

Reflecting the expansion in cattle production that began in 1949 and is still going on, marketings of cattle off grass in months ahead will probably exceed last year. Marketings of lambs the rest of 1952 may average a little above a year before. The gain over 1951 will be considerably less than in the first 4 months.

Prices for meat animals, especially lambs and hogs, have been considerably below a year earlier. In mid-April, prices received by farmers for hogs averaged $4.20 per 100 lb. below a year earlier while cattle were down $2.50 and lambs were off $7.90. Lamb prices declined steadily from October to March, bringing lamb feeders their poorest returns since 1937-38. However, lamb prices strengthened after mid-March.

Prices for meat, on the other hand, have been nearly as high as last year. In April only pork was lower than last April. Relatively lower prices for meat animals than meat are traceable to substantially lower values for all byproducts--hides, wool, lard, and others--and to a price margin between live animals and meats that has been wider than the unusually narrow marketing margins of early 1951.

Prospects for the next two or three months are for seasonally rising prices for all meat animals except the higher grades of cattle, which may decline at the time of peak marketings this spring. Prices of cattle and lambs seem likely to remain below last year, but prices of hogs may rise to or above the same months of 1951.

The pig crop this fall is likely to be considerably smaller than the 1951 fall crop. The hog-corn price ratio has recently been below average and discouraging to production. Expected price increases for hogs will not appear soon enough to affect fall farrowings appreciably. If feed grain crops are average or better this year, hog production may be considerably more profitable next winter than in the past season.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Meat Output above Last Year

Production of meat to date this year has exceeded a year earlier. Commercial production in the first quarter was 8 percent larger than last year, and the largest for that quarter since 1946. Nearly all of the increase over last year was in lamb and mutton (21 percent) and pork (14 percent). Production of beef and veal changed little (table 1). Meat production continued to top last year in April.

Table 1.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-year 1950 to first quarter 1952.

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.
			All meats		
1950	5,076	4,740	4,767	5,648	20,231
1951	5,124	4,652	4,658	5,597	20,031
1952	5,537				
			Beef		
1950	2,231	2,221	2,415	2,381	9,248
1951	2,188	1,965	2,142	2,259	8,554
1952	2,217				
			Veal		
1950	263	277	312	285	1,137
1951	220	216	271	265	972
1952	211				
			Lamb and mutton		
1950	150	139	149	143	381
1951	130	108	127	139	504
1952	157				
			Pork excluding lard		
1950	2,432	2,103	1,891	2,839	9,265
1951	2,586	2,363	2,118	2,934	10,001
1952	2,952				

With larger supplies available, consumption of meat in the first quarter was above last year. Preliminary data indicate a rise from 35.6 pounds per person in the first quarter last year to around 36-36½ pounds this year. Consumption was larger for pork and lamb but smaller for beef and veal.

Meat Animal Prices Lower

Prices of meat animals have been lower than in early months of 1951, when they were climbing towards new highs. The biggest reduction has been in prices of lambs. The United States average price received by farmers for lambs on April 15 was $7.90 per hundred pounds less than the price in April 1951. Prices for beef cattle were down $2.50 and for hogs $4.20.

Only to a small extent are lower prices for meat animals attributable to changes in prices of meat. The retail price of pork in April was several cents per pound lower than last April, but the price of beef and of lamb was about the same as last April. Reduced prices for pork reflect in part the larger supply. However, demand for pork, especially for the fat cuts, is a little weaker than last year. Demand for pork was strengthened in 1951 because of a shortage of beef at ceiling prices, and due to temporary strength in the fatter cuts of pork. The ratio of retail value of pork consumption to incomes in 1951 amounted to nearly 2.4 percent as compared with 2.2 percent in 1950 (table 2). Indications in the first quarter in 1952 are that the ratio may be returning to about its 1950 level.

Table 2.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by kinds of meat, 1950 and 1951

Year	Consumption per person 1/			Average retail price per pound 2/			Retail value of consumption as percentage of disposable personal income		
	All meat	Beef	Pork	All meat	Beef	Pork	All meat	Beef	Pork
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent	Percent
1950	143.7	63.0	68.8	59.5	73.5	46.4	5.5	2.7	2.2
1951	138.2	56.2	72.1	65.8	85.7	50.4	5.5	2.6	2.4

1/ Carcass weight equivalent per civilian consumer.
2/ U.S. average. Price for all meat is weighted by consumption of each meat.

The chief reasons prices of meat animals have declined so much relative to retail prices of meat are that prices for by-products are much lower, and that marketing margins are wider. Prices of virtually all by-

products--hides, wool and pelts, lard, tallow and others--are much lower than last year. Marketing margins--the difference between the value of live animals and of meat and other products--were unusually small at this time in 1951, when prices of meat animals were rising but prices of meat were restricted by ceilings. Marketing margins have increased considerably since that time.

That prices for fat cuts of pork and for lard are off more than prices for lean cuts is shown by the comparisons in table 3. Prices of loins, hams and picnics in 3 weeks of April this year were down 7, 6 and 11 percent respectively from last April; prices of bacon were down 16 percent; but prices of dry salt backs and lard were off 33 and 28 percent (table 3). Prices of loins and hams are higher compared with last year than are the other pork products partly because prices of loins and hams were restricted most by price controls last year. However, more important is the fact that prices of fat cuts and lard strengthened under the inflationary demands of 1951, but have declined since. Almost continuously since 1947, except for 1951, prices of fat cuts and lard have tended to weaken relative to lean cuts.

Table 3.- Prices for barrows and gilts and for major pork products at wholesale, Chicago, average for 3 weeks in April, 1950-52

Commodity	Price per 100 pounds, av. for: 3 weeks in April			Percentage change in price	
	1950	1951	1952	April 1952 from April 1951	April 1952 from April 1950
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
Barrows and gilts 1/	16.09	21.17	16.68	- 21.2	+ 3.7
Loins, 8-10 lb.	38.85	44.20	41.08	- 7.1	+ 5.7
Hams, 12-16 lb.	47.25	55.37	51.83	- 6.4	+ 9.7
Bacon, 6-8 lb.	42.00	47.03	39.58	- 15.8	- 5.8
Picnics, smoked 4-8 lb. av.	32.50	41.63	37.17	- 10.7	+ 14.4
Backs, dry salt, 16-20 lb. av.	12.33	15.87	10.58	- 33.3	- 14.2
Lard, refined, 1-lb. cartons	12.83	20.63	14.75	- 28.5	+ 15.0

1/ Av. all weights and grades.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA

Large Feeding Programs Source of Much of Early 1952 Meat Supply; But Feed Supply now a Limiting Factor

Large feeding programs contributed much of the increased meat supply in the first few months of 1952. On January 1, 11 percent more cattle and 15 percent more lambs were on feed than a year before. Hogs fed out and marketed this winter came from the 1951 spring pig crop, which was the second largest on record.

Smaller supplies of feed grains together with lower returns from livestock have tended to restrict that part of livestock production dependent on grain feed. The biggest reduction has been in hogs. Beginning in September, fewer sows farrowed fall pigs than a year before and farmers' intentions on December 1 were for 8 percent fewer to farrow spring pigs this year than last. (Actual farrowings will be reported June 19.)

Hog marketings and slaughter, which for many months have exceeded the previous year, are now about down to the levels of last year. Weights of hogs marketed have recently been lighter than last year. Slaughter will drop further relative to 1951. Slaughter this summer will be less than last summer, and the reduction from a year ago will be greater next fall and winter.

On April 1, the number of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt, though still large, was only 3 percent above last April. In January, the same States showed 6 percent more on feed than last January. The number on feed in California and Colorado on April 1 was substantially above last year, but the percentage increase was much less than on January 1. Fewer were on feed in Idaho this April than last.

Cattle on feed in the Corn Belt included somewhat more steers and fewer calves than last April. According to the report for Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, those on feed included more that had been on feed 3 months or longer.

Slaughter of grain-fed cattle will continue large this spring and much of the summer, and will probably exceed last year at that time. The number slaughtered this fall will depend partly on whether placements on feed in early summer hold up better than last year, when they fell sharply during the period just after cattle price ceilings went into effect. In view of this uncertainty, the most likely prospect at present is that marketings of grain fed cattle in early to mid-fall will be moderately above last fall. Marketings later are less likely to show a gain over 1951, but the total for the season may be at least equal to last year.

Total Cattle Marketings to Exceed Last Year

Unlike grain feeding operations, production of livestock from forage and pasture continues to expand. An increase of 6 million head in cattle numbers on farms during 1951 will result in larger total marketings and slaughter of cattle this year than last. Much of the gain, especially in the second half of the year, will be in cattle marketed off grass.

Small slaughter of cows and heifers in the first few months this year indicates a continued uptrend in cattle numbers and production.

Marketings and slaughter of sheep the rest of this year may average larger than in the same period of 1951, but by a much smaller percentage than in the first 4 months when a large part of the marketings came from expanded feeding operations.

Total livestock marketings and meat production are expected to remain above last year. Output of meat this spring and summer will continue substantially above 1951, as the seasonal decline will be no sharper than last year. Output this fall, however, may be up from last year by a smaller percentage. The increased beef supply at that time may only a little more than offset the reduction in pork.

Production of all meat for 1952 may total large enough for consumption per person to rise to 141 pounds from the 138 pounds for 1951. 1/

Higher Price Trends Expected

Prices this spring and early summer are expected to move upward seasonally, except possibly for weakness in prices of fed cattle at times of peak marketings. Springtime demand for grazing cattle will probably support prices of cows and lower grade steers. If demand for meat retains its present strength, prices of hogs and lambs are expected to increase. Sometime this summer hog prices may reach those of a year earlier. Prices of lambs and cattle, however, seem unlikely to equal those of last year.

By late summer or early fall, the usual seasonal reversal of price trends may again take place. Prices of fed cattle may move higher at that time, while prices of other classes of meat animals are more likely to decrease. Hog prices this fall may decline no more than usual and may stay equal to or a little above last fall.

Little Change in Feed Grain Acreages Planned by Farmers

If farmers plant no more corn and other feed grains than they intended in March and approximately average yields per acre are obtained, production of meat animals from grain could not expand much in the next year or so. Production of hogs and pork in 1953 would remain below the level of 1951 and early 1952, preventing much increase in total meat output despite the expected continued rise in beef.

Farmers intended to plant slightly more acres in corn this year and 3 percent more oats. They planned to reduce the barley and grain sorghum acreage. More of the corn acreage would be in higher-yielding areas. At average yields, production of feed grains this year would be 6 percent larger than last year. But since carryovers of old grain this fall will be smaller than last fall, the total supply of feed grains for the new feeding year would be no larger than for the current year.

Acreage intentions give at best only very rough indications of probable feed grain production, since actual acreages always differ somewhat from intentions and because yields per acre usually affect the size of grain crops more than do the changes in acreage.

1/ Preliminary estimate for 1951. This as well as estimates for several earlier years will be revised slightly when revised data on farm slaughter back to 1946 are released.

Fall Pig Crop to be Smaller

The 1952 fall pig crop will in all probability be smaller than the big crop of 40 million pigs saved last fall. The reduction may be fairly large.

An unfavorable hog-corn price ratio this winter and spring is the main factor pointing to a reduction in fall pigs. As a rule, farmers reduce the number of sows to farrow when the price ratio during the spring is below average. The ratio in April was 9.8, less than average and less than the ratio of 12.7 in April 1951. Hogs were lower in price and corn higher this April than last.

Studies have shown that the hog-corn ratio during breeding season is not an accurate guide to the profitableness of raising the following pig crop. Conditions often change greatly between the breeding and marketing season. This year the hog-corn price ratio is likely to improve gradually if the corn crop is fairly large, and to be higher next winter than it has been lately. Thus, if corn yields are good and demand for meat is well maintained, hog production appears likely to be more profitable next winter than in the past season.

A sharp upturn in hog prices and bright prospects for the corn crop by mid-summer might prove encouraging for late-fall farrowings and prevent the total fall pig crop from being reduced as much as now seems likely.

Returns from Lamb Feeding Poor.

Lamb feeders who bought lambs last fall and sold them during the winter had, on the average, returns at least as low as in 1947-48 and possibly lower than in any year since 1937-38. (See table 4.) Returns this winter contrast with much above average returns realized in the 1950-51 feeding season.

Both feeder lambs and feed were higher in price this year than last. At the beginning of the marketing season, prices of slaughter lambs were as high as the year before, but they declined more than $4.00 per 100 pounds from early December to their low in mid-March. Prices advanced after mid-March.

Returns to individual feeders varied from the averages calculated in table 4. The data in the table apply to a representative feeding program and include the principal but not all cost and receipt items.

New Wool Price Support Schedules Announced

A schedule of prices for the support of shorn wool by loan and pulled wool by purchase under the 1952 wool price support program was announced by the Department of Agriculture on March 31. The supports on shorn wool will conform to the program announced in February. Non-recourse loans on shorn wool will be made to producers through handlers who represent producers or producer pools. Loans will be made following appraisal, but an advance recourse loan will be available prior to final appraisal. Loan rates are quoted on a Boston basis and calculated on a national average support of 54.2 cents per pound, grease basis, for the 1952-53 marketing year.

A wool price support program is required by the Agricultural Act of 1949.

Table 4.- Average prices and values of important items affecting returns from lamb feeding, 1946-47 to 1951-52

Item	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	1950-1951	1951-1952
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Price per 100 pounds of Choice and Prime slaughter lambs, Chicago, December-March 1/	23.34	23.83	25.72	24.33	36.35	28.82
Price per 100 pounds of Good and Choice feeder lambs, Omaha, September-December	17.73	21.29	22.90	23.16	29.35	31.61
Price per bushel received by farmers for corn, North Central States October-March	1.292	2.222	1.190	1.093	1.473	1.620
Price per ton received by farmers for alfalfa hay, baled, North Central States, October-March	2/23.00	2/25.00	25.25	21.68	21.98	21.48
	Total value					
Market value at Chicago of Choice and Prime 85 pound slaughter lambs 1/	19.84	20.26	21.86	20.68	30.90	24.50
Market cost at Omaha of 60 pound feeder lambs	10.64	12.77	13.74	13.90	17.61	18.97
Cost of 2½ bushels of corn	3.23	5.56	2.98	2.73	3.68	4.05
Cost of 150 pounds of alfalfa hay	1.72	1.88	1.89	1.63	1.65	1.61
Total of cost items shown 3/	15.59	20.21	18.61	18.26	22.94	24.63
Margin of market value per lamb over total of cost items shown 3/	4.25	.05	3.25	2.42	7.96	-.13

1/ Formerly Good and Choice. New grades were effective April 30, 1951.
2/ Estimated from U.S. average price paid for baled alfalfa hay.
3/ Does not include purchasing or marketing expenses, labor cost, death losses, overhead costs or costs of other feed ingredients, or credits for manure. The prices shown are averages for the lamb feeding season for the North Central region, and do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders.

Income for Wool Higher in
1951 than 1950

Cash receipts from production of shorn wool in 1951 were 225 million dollars, nearly twice the receipts of 1950. Production was up 10 million pounds or 5 percent. Wool prices climbed to high levels in the early months of 1951, and averaged much higher than in 1950 despite a continuous down-trend during most of the last 9 months of the year (table 5).

Production of pulled wool was low in 1951, reflecting the smallest slaughter of sheep and lambs since records began in 1899.

Prices and receipts from mohair also were higher in 1951 than in 1950 (table 6).

USDA Offers to Purchase
Pork

On April 9 the Department of Agriculture announced that it would entertain offers of smoked shoulder picnics, smoked hams and bacon, to be purchased as a surplus removal measure and to be distributed through the National School Lunch Programs and other eligible outlets. Delivery would be made after the beginning of the new school year this fall.

The offer to purchase pork was made, the announcement stated, to divert from the market temporary burdensome supplies of pork which are resulting in unfavorable prices for producers.

By April 22, 10 million pounds of smoked skinned hams and 2 million pounds of bacon had been purchased.

Anthrax Outbreak in Mid-West and Texas; called
"Out-of-season and Out-of-place."

Unusual outbreaks of anthrax have been reported in recent weeks in several States. Reports indicate that the greatest infection is occurring in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Texas, and is largely affecting swine herds. These outbreaks are unusual in that the malady is striking in areas where the disease has not been a problem before, has affected hogs more than cattle and sheep, and has appeared much earlier than usual. Ordinarily anthrax appears only in known infected areas and in late summer or early fall, and hits cattle and other grazing animals harder than hogs.

Foot-Mouth Area
in Canada Widened

Additional cases of foot-and-mouth disease have been discovered in Canada since the outbreak was first diagnosed in February. An infection has been reported about 50 miles from the United States border. Infected cattle are being disposed of in the control campaign.

Table 5.- Production, price and income from wool, United States, 1944-50

Year	Sheep shorn number 1/	Weight per fleece	Production shorn wool	Price per pound	Cash receipts	Pulled wool production
	Thousands	Pounds	1,000 lb.	Cents	1,000 dol.	1,000 lb.
1944	43,165	7.84	338,318	42.4	143,513	73,500
1945	38,763	7.95	307,976	41.9	129,135	70,500
1946	34,647	8.11	280.908	42.3	118,765	61,300
1947	30,953	8.12	251,425	41.9	105,409	56,600
1948	28,649	8.09	231,770	48.7	112,962	46,600
1949	26,382	8.07	212,899	49.3	105,009	35,600
1950	26,387	8.16	215,422	57.3	123,340	32,400
1951	27,357	8.24	225,545	99.5	224,515	24,900

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.

Table 6.- Mohair: Production and value for 7 leading States, 1944-50 1/

Year	Goats clipped 2/	Average clip per goat	Production	Price per pound	Value
	Thousands	Pounds	1,000 lb.	Cents	1,000 dol.
1944	4,109	5.0	20,443	60.1	12,295
1945	4,291	5.1	22,008	55.3	12,180
1946	3,939	4.9	19,282	61.1	11,783
1947	3,672	5.0	18,225	53.6	9,772
1948	3,164	5.1	15,972	45.4	7,251
1949	2,558	5.1	12,959	46.3	6,001
1950	2,530	5.2	13,245	76.0	10,062
1951 3/	2,475	5.2	12,888	118.0	15,183

1/ Seven leading States are Missouri, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and California.
2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall.
3/ Preliminary.

OPS Suspends Ceilings
on Hides, Fats and Wool

The Office of Price Stabilization suspended price controls on 16 agricultural commodities at the producer level effective April 28. Included in the commodities are cattlehides, kips, calfskins, tallow, lard, animal waste materials, wool, wool tops, wool noils, wool waste and alpaca. All are now selling materially below ceilings.

The announcement of the suspension of ceilings made it clear that the action is not outright or permanent casting off of controls. Each suspension order includes a specific recontrol point which is below current ceilings but well above the current market price of each commodity. According to the announcement, when prices of a suspended commodity reach the recontrol point, ceilings will be reimposed.

World Cattle, Hog, Sheep Numbers Record High

World cattle numbers at the beginning of 1952 are estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at a record level of 821 million head, 13 million above a year earlier. Increases were reported in North America, Asia and Europe while slight decreases occurred in South America and Oceania (Australia and New Zealand).

Some increase in world cattle numbers is in prospect for 1952; however, feed and forage resources may restrict much further expansion in some important cattle countries.

World hog numbers on January 1, 1952 also are estimated at a record high. The 305 million head are 3 percent above a year earlier. Almost all major pork producing countries increased hog numbers during 1951 but the countries of North America and Europe showed relatively greatest gains.

With hog prices less attractive in relation to feed prices, hog numbers are not likely to increase further during 1952. Limited feed grain supplies will discourage hog production in much of Europe and in the United States.

World sheep numbers have maintained an upward trend since 1947 and the 808 million estimated for January 1, 1952 were slightly above the previous record set in 1942. Recent gain in sheep numbers resulted from favorable economic and climatic conditions. However, declining wool prices since last spring and drought in Australia and the Union of South Africa make it unlikely that world numbers will increase much further during 1952.

FOREIGN TRADE IN MEATS AND CATTLE, 1951

Imports of meat into the United States in 1951 were the largest on record. Exports decreased somewhat from 1950. Data on exports and imports by countries of origin and destination are presented in table 7. Argentina was the biggest supplier of beef and veal. Most of the 142 million pounds received from Argentina was of canned beef. Canada supplied 82 million pounds of beef and veal, nearly all of it fresh, and Mexico sent in about 51 million pounds, most of it pickled and cured. Canada was the biggest

Table 7.- United States imports and exports of meat by principal countries of origin or destination, 1950 and 1951

Product and Calendar year	Exports and shipments to territories: Exports, product weight, by country of destination: Canada	The Netherlands	United Kingdom	Germany	Cuba	All other	Total	Total exports and shipments, carcass weight equivalent 1/
	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.
Beef & veal								
1950	16.4	.02	.004	.001	.03	8.6	19.0	24.5
1951	8.3	0	.016	0	.05	4.3	12.6	17.1
Lamb & mutton								
1950	.008	0	0	0	.013	0.4	0.4	1.8
1951	.002	0	0	0	.008	0.2	0.2	1.2
Pork								
1950	5.9	14.3	.02	2.2	22.3	47.6	92.3	99.4
1951	21.9	14.8	.06	5.7	26.9	30.9	100.2	107.4
Sausage								
1950	0.1	.03	.002	.02	0.8	12.9	13.8	11.8
1951	0.4	0	0	0	0.1	9.1	9.6	8.1
Total meat								
1950	16.4	14.3	.02	2.2	23.1	69.5	125.5	137.5
1951	30.6	14.8	.08	5.7	27.0	22.8	122.6	133.8

Imports

Product and calendar year	Product weight, by country of origin: Canada	The Netherlands	Denmark	Poland	Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay	Mexico	All other	Total	Total imports, carcass weight equivalent
	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.
Beef & veal											
1950	62.2	--	--	--	90.4	8.8	22.8	0	14.7	198.9	332.0
1951	82.1	--	0.3	--	141.8	5.7	18.7	50.8	13.4	312.8	473.1
Lamb & mutton											
1950	2.8	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	0.6	3.4	3.4
1951	2.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	4.0	6.7	6.7
Pork											
1950	14.8	6.0	2.7	7.0	--	--	--	0	1.2	31.7	33.0
1951	22.5	16.2	4.2	5.1	--	--	--	0	1.0	49.0	50.9
Total meat											
1950	79.8	6.0	2.7	7.0	90.4	8.8	22.8	0	16.5	234.0	368.4
1951	107.3	16.2	4.5	5.1	141.8	5.7	18.7	50.8	18.4	368.5	530.7

1/ Includes exports and shipments to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands, except that data not available for Aug. 1951 to Dec. 1951.

Data for product weight compiled from Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

supplier of pork, with the Netherlands next in rank. Canada, Iceland and Australia provided most of the lamb that was imported. Exports of pork went mainly to Cuba, Canada and the Netherlands. For both Canada and the Netherlands, exports of pork almost exactly equaled imports.

Foreign trade of the United States in meat is always small in relation to total domestic production and consumption. Imports of beef last year amounted to 5 percent of consumption. Imports of pork were about ½ of one percent of production in this country, and exports were about 1 percent.

Less meat will be imported this year than last, chiefly because less will be available from foreign countries. All imports of meat as well as of live animals have been prohibited from Canada since February 25 when foot and mouth disease was discovered. Supplies of beef from Argentina will be smaller this year than last.

About 239,000 cattle and calves were imported from Canada in 1951. This was about half the number received in 1950. Imports for 1952 will be small, as they probably will include only those brought in during January and February (table 8). For the first time in a number of years, the United States exported cattle and beef to Canada in 1951. The movement was very small, however.

Table 8.- Imports of live cattle into the United States from Canada, free and dutiable, calendar years 1936-39, 1948, 1949, 1950 and preliminary 1951

Year	Dutiable							Pure-bred (free)	Total cattle
	700 pounds and over			Up to 700 pounds			Total dutiable cattle		
	Dairy	Other	Total	Under 200 pounds 1/	200-699 pounds 2/	Total			
	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head
1936	6,686	136,533	143,219	55,695	35,149	90,844	234,063	10,346	244,409
1937	6,724	157,467	164,191	80,792	50,355	131,147	295,338	11,350	306,688
1938	7,442	75,529	82,971	45,645	9,147	54,792	137,763	9,080	146,843
1939	8,570	172,753	181,323	81,832	11,229	93,061	274,384	9,599	283,983
1948	84,275	214,645	298,920	23,571	96,335	119,906	418,826	42,853	461,679
1949	49,061	194,916	243,977	41,535	126,614	168,149	412,126	21,332	433,458
1950	46,591	173,000	219,591	38,985	179,709	218,694	438,285	22,610	460,895
1951	35,600	117,455	153,055	15,609	51,103	66,712	219,767	19,100	238,867

1/ Under 175 pounds for years 1936-38.
2/ 175 to 699 pounds for years 1936-38.

Compiled from Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States and official records of the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Production of Canned Meat Larger in 1951

Production of canned meat under Federal inspection increased again in 1951. Output was almost 40 percent larger than in 1949, though less than during the war. With military takings much smaller than during the war, civilian consumption of canned meat apparently was a new high last year (table 9).

RANK OF STATES IN LIVESTOCK NUMBERS 1/

In tables 10, 11 and 12 data are presented ranking the States according to number of cattle and sheep on farms January 1, 1952, the number of pigs saved in 1951, and the liveweight of farm production of each species in 1951. These data are intended to show the position of each State relative to the others in livestock numbers and production.

Similar data for the previous year were given in the May 1951 issue of this Situation. Reported numbers of livestock have been changed considerably, because of trends in production and also because of revisions in data required by the Census of 1950. The order of States has not changed much.

Outstanding points in the ranking of States are the leading position of Texas in total cattle, beef cattle and sheep; of Wisconsin in milk cows; and of Iowa in hogs. Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas all rank high in cattle. Southern States, though increasing their cattle production, still rank below many Western and mid-West States in cattle numbers. Florida is eleventh in number of beef cows, and Louisiana thirteenth. More comments on the position of various States in livestock numbers may be found in the May 1951 issue.

1/ Compiled by Mrs. Lucille Johnson.

(Net product weight)

Year	Federally inspected production 1/	Imports 2/	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments 3/	Ending stocks	USDA purchases 4/	Military purchases 5/	Apparent civilian distribution 6/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1937	308.1	88.1		396.2	21.9		0		374.3
1938	303.5	78.6		382.1	22.8		0		359.3
1939	406.8	85.9		492.7	23.9		0		468.8
1940	530.2	61.3		591.5	20.2		0		571.3
1941	883.9	104.3		988.2	26.7		188.4	75.5	697.6
1942	1,926.6	91.6		2,018.2	19.8		875.6	920.5	202.3
1943	2,051.2	105.5		2,156.7	9.9		1,024.8	680.5	441.5
1944	1,930.7	87.7		2,018.4	13.2	17.7	448.6	1,121.0	417.9
1945	1,926.1	54.8	17.7	1,998.6	13.5	18.1	359.6	970.9	636.5
1946	1,342.8	3.3	18.1	1,364.2	55.3	22.6	157.1	19.2	1,110.0
1947	1,099.4	28.7	22.6	1,150.7	64.3	27.3	---	31.1	1,028.0
1948	1,096.0	129.1	27.3	1,252.4	35.4	28.0	---	52.8	1,136.2
1949	1,039.7	72.3	28.0	1,140.0	25.7	27.2	---	23.0	1,064.1
1950	1,231.3	124.6	27.2	1,383.1	20.0	27.3	---	50.3	1,285.5
1951	1,441.2	153.0	27.3	1,621.5	17.1	34.6	---	232.0	1,337.8

1/ Beef, pork, sausage, all other, excluding soup. Data from Bureau of Animal Industry.
2/ Canned beef only. Data from Department of Commerce.
3/ Includes shipments to Territories as reported through July 1951. Excludes shipments under lend-lease and UNRRA (1941-46) and the Civilian Supply Programs of the U.S. Department of the Army in foreign countries (1948-51). Data from Department of Commerce.
4/ Canned meats and meat food products officially graded for CCC. Does not include transfers of meat from the military to CCC or small quantities turned back to civilians or transferred to the military. Purchases from U.S. supplies or from imports.
5/ From Statistical Yearbook of the Quartermaster Corps and other military records. Not a complete listing of all canned meats purchased during the war years, but cover practically all of the canned meats purchased during the war for mass troop feeding. Includes imported canned meat and army rations and some meat and rations later transferred to CCC and UNRRA.
6/ Calculated from Federally inspected supplies and distribution as shown. Federally inspected production is the largest part of total U.S. production of canned meats.

Table 10.- Rank of States in number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, 1952

Rank	All cattle and calves		Beef cattle and calves (Cattle "not for milk") Total		Beef cows 2 years and over	
	State	Number	State	Number	State	Number
		Thousands		Thousands		Thousand
1	Texas	8,940	Texas	7,350	Texas	3,755
2	Iowa	5,507	Nebraska	3,948	Nebraska	1,337
3	Nebraska	4,646	Iowa	3,817	Kansas	1,166
4	Kansas	4,341	Kansas	3,464	Oklahoma	1,034
5	Wisconsin	3,916	South Dakota	2,242	South Dakota	995
6	Missouri	3,658	Missouri	2,224	Montana	948
7	Illinois	3,550	Oklahoma	2,120	Missouri	834
8	Minnesota	3,472	Illinois	2,024	Iowa	782
9	California	3,160	Montana	1,925	Colorado	732
10	Oklahoma	3,065	Colorado	1,812	California	706
11	South Dakota	2,826	California	1,811	Florida	647
12	Ohio	2,279	Minnesota	1,255	New Mexico	639
13	New York	2,222	Florida	1,250	Lousiana	604
14	Colorado	2,117	New Mexico	1,134	Wyoming	523
15	Montana	2,107	Wyoming	1,046	Illinois	481
16	Michigan	1,890	Lousiana	1,040	Mississippi	450
17	Indiana	1,886	North Dakota	988	North Dakota	411
18	Pennsylvania	1,790	Oregon	865	Arizona	405
19	Kentucky	1,722	Indiana	862	Alabama	404
20	Mississippi	1,686	Mississippi	831	Oregon	396
21	Tennessee	1,658	Kentucky	825	Arkansas	320
22	North Dakota	1,613	Arizona	812	Nevada	302
23	Lousiana	1,540	Idaho	764	Idaho	273
24	Florida	1,539	Alabama	762	Georgia	268
25	Alabama	1,485	Tennessee	714	Kentucky	265
26	Arkansas	1,381	Ohio	696	Tennessee	237
27	Virginia	1,269	Arkansas	686	Utah	231
28	Georgia	1,235	Georgia	627	Virginia	231
29	Oregon	1,228	Washington	564	Minnesota	229
30	New Mexico	1,213	Virginia	564	Indiana	223
31	Idaho	1,126	Nevada	554	Washington	207
32	Wyoming	1,124	Utah	510	Ohio	129
33	Washington	982	Michigan	408	West Virginia	103
34	Arizona	885	Wisconsin	373	North Carolina	77
35	North Carolina	796	Pennsylvania	311	South Carolina	70
36	Utah	679	West Virginia	273	Michigan	60
37	Nevada	589	North Carolina	229	Pennsylvania	43
38	West Virginia	588	South Carolina	172	Wisconsin	27
39	Maryland	481	New York	131	Maryland	26
40	Vermont	432	Maryland	107	New York	21
41	South Carolina	427	Maine	25	Maine	6
42	New Jersey	221	Vermont	20	New Hampshire	2
43	Maine	218	New Jersey	15	Vermont	2
44	Massachusetts	182	Massachusetts	11	Massachusetts	2
45	Connecticut	180	Delaware	10	New Jersey	2
46	New Hampshire	115	Connecticut	10	Delaware	2
47	Delaware	69	New Hampshire	10	Connecticut	1
48	Rhode Island	27	Rhode Island	1	Rhode Island	--
United States total		88,062		52,192		20,608

Table 11.- Rank of States in number of milk cows and sheep on farms January 1, 1952 and pigs saved 1951.

Rank	Milk cows 2 years and over: State	Number	All sheep and lambs: State	Number	Number pigs saved 1/: State	Number
		Thousands		Thousands		Thousands
1	Wisconsin	2,407	Texas	6,176	Iowa	21,304
2	Minnesota	1,412	Wyoming	2,164	Illinois	11,064
3	New York	1,411	Colorado	1,924	Indiana	8,635
4	Iowa	1,123	California	1,900	Missouri	7,359
5	Texas	1,053	Montana	1,861	Minnesota	6,758
6	Ohio	1,019	New Mexico	1,451	Ohio	5,693
7	Missouri	984	Utah	1,405	Nebraska	4,889
8	Pennsylvania ...	960	Iowa	1,280	Wisconsin	3,706
9	Michigan	936	Ohio	1,249	South Dakota ...	2,745
10	Illinois	922	Idaho	1,085	Georgia	2,635
11	California	849	South Dakota ...	1,039	Kansas	2,462
12	Indiana	692	Missouri	1,008	Texas	2,308
13	Tennessee	668	Minnesota	924	Tennessee	1,984
14	Kentucky	655	Nebraska	871	Kentucky	1,936
15	Kansas	586	Illinois	726	Alabama	1,870
16	Mississippi	571	Oregon	686	North Carolina .	1,857
17	Oklahoma	552	Kentucky	668	Michigan	1,648
18	Virginia	469	Kansas	619	Oklahoma	1,311
19	Nebraska	454	Nevada	475	Virginia	1,247
20	Arkansas	432	Indiana	457	Pennsylvania ...	1,101
21	Alabama	419	North Dakota ...	439	Arkansas	1,012
22	North Dakota ...	410	Michigan	433	Mississippi	944
23	North Carolina .	376	Arizona	401	South Carolina .	909
24	Georgia	372	Washington	326	Florida	819
25	South Dakota ...	350	Virginia	321	California	808
26	Louisiana	326	West Virginia ..	314	Lousiana	785
27	Vermont	276	Wisconsin	283	North Dakota ...	763
28	Washington	275	Tennessee	274	Colorado	448
29	Maryland	245	Pennsylvania ...	235	Maryland	424
30	Oregon	228	New York	155	New York	340
31	West Virginia ..	224	Oklahoma	153	Montana	324
32	Idaho	220	Lousiana	109	Idaho	311
33	Colorado	186	Mississippi	75	West Virginia ..	295
34	South Carolina .	165	Maryland	45	Oregon	268
35	New Jersey	153	North Carolina .	43	Washington	217
36	Florida	149	Arkansas	41	New Jersey	181
37	Massachusetts ..	125	Alabama	19	Utah	142
38	Connecticut	119	Maine	19	Massachusetts ..	127
39	Montana	119	New Jersey	13	Wyoming	122
40	Maine	114	Georgia	11	New Mexico	102
41	Utah	108	Vermont	10	Delaware	62
42	New Hampshire ..	66	Massachusetts ..	10	Maine	60
43	New Mexico	53	New Hampshire ..	8	Connecticut	42
44	Arizona	49	Connecticut	8	Arizona	36
45	Wyoming	49	South Carolina .	4	Nevada	33
46	Delaware	39	Florida	3	Vermont	25
47	Rhode Island ...	20	Delaware	3	New Hampshire ..	22
48	Nevada	17	Rhode Island ...	2	Rhode Island ...	6
United States total ..		23,407		31,725		102,139

1/ Total of pigs saved from spring and fall pig crops of 1951.

Table 12.- Rank of States in liveweight of farm production of meat animals, 1951 1/

Rank	Cattle and calves: State	Cattle and calves: Production	Sheep and lambs: State	Sheep and lambs: Production	Hogs: State	Hogs: Production
		Mil. lbs.		Mil. lbs.		Mil. lbs.
1	Texas	2,153	Texas	143	Iowa	4,828
2	Iowa	1,699	California	100	Illionis	2,429
3	Nebraska	1,364	Colorado	92	Indiana	1,794
4	Kansas	1,336	Wyoming	91	Missouri	1,553
5	Illinois	994	Idaho	78	Minnesota	1,499
6	Missouri	979	Montana	75	Ohio	1,143
7	California	935	Iowa	62	Nebraska	1,091
8	Minnesota	933	Utah	59	Wisconsin	771
9	Oklahoma	842	Missouri	53	South Dakota	618
10	Wisconsin	818	South Dakota	47	Kansas	506
11	South Dakota	771	Minnesota	47	Texas	460
12	Colorado	642	Kentucky	44	Tennessee	406
13	Montana	598	Nebraska	44	Georgia	401
14	Ohio	518	New Mexico	43	Kentucky	384
15	Indiana	512	Ohio	42	North Carolina	327
16	North Dakota	425	Oregon	37	Alabama	322
17	Michigan	420	Kansas	36	Michigan	315
18	Kentucky	386	Illinois	35	Oklahoma	267
19	New York	381	Indiana	26	Virginia	244
20	Tennessee	362	North Dakota	22	Pennsylvania	219
21	Pennsylvania	335	Michigan	21	Arkansas	202
22	New Mexico	341	Nevada	20	Mississippi	169
23	Wyoming	318	Washington	19	North Dakota	164
24	Oregon	302	Virginia	18	California	157
25	Idaho	280	West Virginia	18	South Carolina	153
26	Mississippi	273	Arizona	17	Lousiana	117
27	Arkansas	267	Tennessee	14	Florida	104
28	Alabama	262	Wisconsin	14	Colorado	99
29	Virginia	246	Oklahoma	8	Maryland	77
30	Louisiana	242	Pennsylvania	7	West Virginia	66
31	Washington	235	New York	6	New York	64
32	Arizona	202	Maryland	2	Montana	64
33	Georgia	190	North Carolina	2	Idaho	58
34	Florida	188	Mississippi	1	Oregon	53
35	Utah	162	Lousiana	1	Washington	45
36	Nevada	146	Maine	1	New Jersey	33
37	West Virginia	120	Arkansas	1	Utah	25
38	North Carolina	115	Alabama	1	Massachusetts	24
39	Maryland	92	New Jersey	1/	Wyoming	24
40	Vermont	65	Massachusetts	1/	New Mexico	20
41	South Carolina	62	Connecticut	1/	Maine	12
42	New Jersey	44	Vermont	1/	Delaware	10
43	Maine	40	New Hampshire	1/	Connecticut	9
44	Rhode Island	32	Georgia	1/	Arizona	7
45	Massachusetts	28	Delaware	1/	Nevada	6
46	New Hampshire	21	Rhode Island	1/	Vermont	5
47	Delaware	12	South Carolina	1/	New Hampshire	4
48	Rhode Island	4	Florida	1/	Rhode Island	1
United States total		21,692		1,349		21,349

1/ Liveweight produced during year by livestock on farms. Preliminary data.
2/ Less than 500,000 lbs.

TRENDS IN CATTLE NUMBERS

By Harold F. Breimyer

This continues a series of special articles dealing with trends in cattle

Numbers of cattle and calves on farms were increased during 1951 by 6 million head, the most ever added in a single year. The 88 million on farms January 1, 1952 were a new record high. Previously, numbers had been reduced from a peak in 1945 to a cyclical low in 1949, then rose 11 million head or nearly 15 percent from January 1949 to January 1952.

An expansion is still going on, though probably at a slower rate than in 1951.

This uptrend in production will bring substantial increases in numbers slaughtered. Projections of numbers on farms and numbers slaughtered annually were made to 1955 in the October, 1951 issue of this Situation. New projections, changed to conform to revised cattle numbers for 1946-51, are presented in this article. Forcasts of this sort are based on the uniformity observed in past cattle cycles.

A marked similarity between cycles in cattle numbers affords good grounds for anticipating future trends. Nevertheless, there is reason to examine the recent trends in cattle, to discover whether or not the present cycle appears "typical". Observations on the cycle to date will help to show whether future trends also are likely to conform to a usual pattern. Data and a brief discussion will be presented.

Changes in Numbers by Class of Cattle

In one respect at least the present cattle cycle is not typical: it has been far from uniform by various classes of cattle. In the last two previous upswings in total numbers (1928-34 and 1938-45) both milk and beef cattle participated. The increase this time has been almost entirely in beef cattle.

Numbers of all cattle for beef rose 26 percent between January 1949 and January 1952. Numbers of cattle for milk went up only 2 percent, and the gain was entirely in young stock (table 13). Differences between cows for beef and milk were even greater. Beef cows increased 30 percent and milk cows were reduced 2 percent in the last 3 years.

During the downtrend in cattle numbers between 1945 and 1949, beef cattle had also fared better than cattle for milk. Beef cows were decreased only 3 percent in those four years. Other kinds of beef cattle, notably steers, were cut back more than beef cows, principally because a back-log of slaughter cattle built up under wartime price controls was liquidated after the end of controls.

It seems, therefore, that trends in cattle since 1945 have comprised three separate developments: (1) slaughter cattle were held back during

wartime price control for sale in 1947, and withheld again in 1951; (2) numbers of milk cows have been reduced each successive year, as emphasis has been shifted from production of milk for butterfat to production of beef; (3) numbers of cows kept for beef have increased greatly.

Unless an expansion should soon begin in numbers of cattle for milk, the present upswing in total cattle numbers will have been generated by beef cattle alone. The total cyclical rise in cattle numbers could be as large this time as in previous cycles only if the increase in beef cattle should be greater than ever before in this century. The largest protracted expansion in beef cattle since 1900 was the 47 percent increase from 1939 to 1945. 1/

Table 13.- Changes in numbers of cattle on farms, by class, 1945-49 and 1949-52

Class	Number January 1			Percentage change in numbers		
	1945	1949	1952	1945 to 1949	1949 to 1952	1945 to 1952
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	Percent	Percent
All cattle and calves	85,573	76,830	88,062	- 10.2	+ 14.6	+ 2.9
Milk cattle 1/	40,849	35,270	35,870	- 13.7	+ 1.7	- 12.2
Cows	27,770	23,862	23,407	- 14.1	- 1.9	- 15.7
Heifers	6,307	5,327	5,726	- 15.5	+ 7.5	- 9.2
Heifer calves	6,772	6,081	6,737	- 10.2	+ 10.8	- 0.5
Beef cattle 2/	44,724	41,560	52,192	- 7.1	+ 25.6	+ 16.7
Cows	16,456	15,919	20,608	- 3.3	+ 29.5	+ 25.2
Heifers	5,069	4,657	5,890	- 8.1	+ 26.5	+ 16.2
Calves	12,871	12,033	15,541	- 6.5	+ 29.2	+ 20.7
Steers	8,329	7,270	8,373	- 12.7	+ 15.2	+ 0.5
Bulls	1,999	1,681	1,780	- 15.9	+ 5.9	- 11.0

1/ Cattle and calves "for milk".
2/ Cattle and calves "not for milk".

1/ The increase from 1912-18 was of about the same scale, though data do not permit an exact comparison.

Regions of Increase in Numbers

Although the increase in cattle numbers the last 3 years has been general, some regions have expanded faster than others. All States except New Hampshire reported an increase--and the reduction in that State was only 0.9 percent. Southern States made the greatest percentage gains. The South Atlantic States led with a 22 percent gain and the South Central States were next with 18 percent. The West North Central Region had a 16 percent rise over the 3 years. The increase in the West was 13 percent, in the East North Central 10 percent, and in the North Atlantic Region, 5 percent (table 14).

Regional changes, like national totals, are different for beef than for milk cattle. In all regions, the number of beef cows increased substantially from January 1949 to January 1952. The percentage gain by regions was nearly uniform except for the West. Only in the Western region and in Texas was it less than the United States average. Changes in milk cows by regions were consistently small. No State or region showed a large increase or decrease. (See charts.)

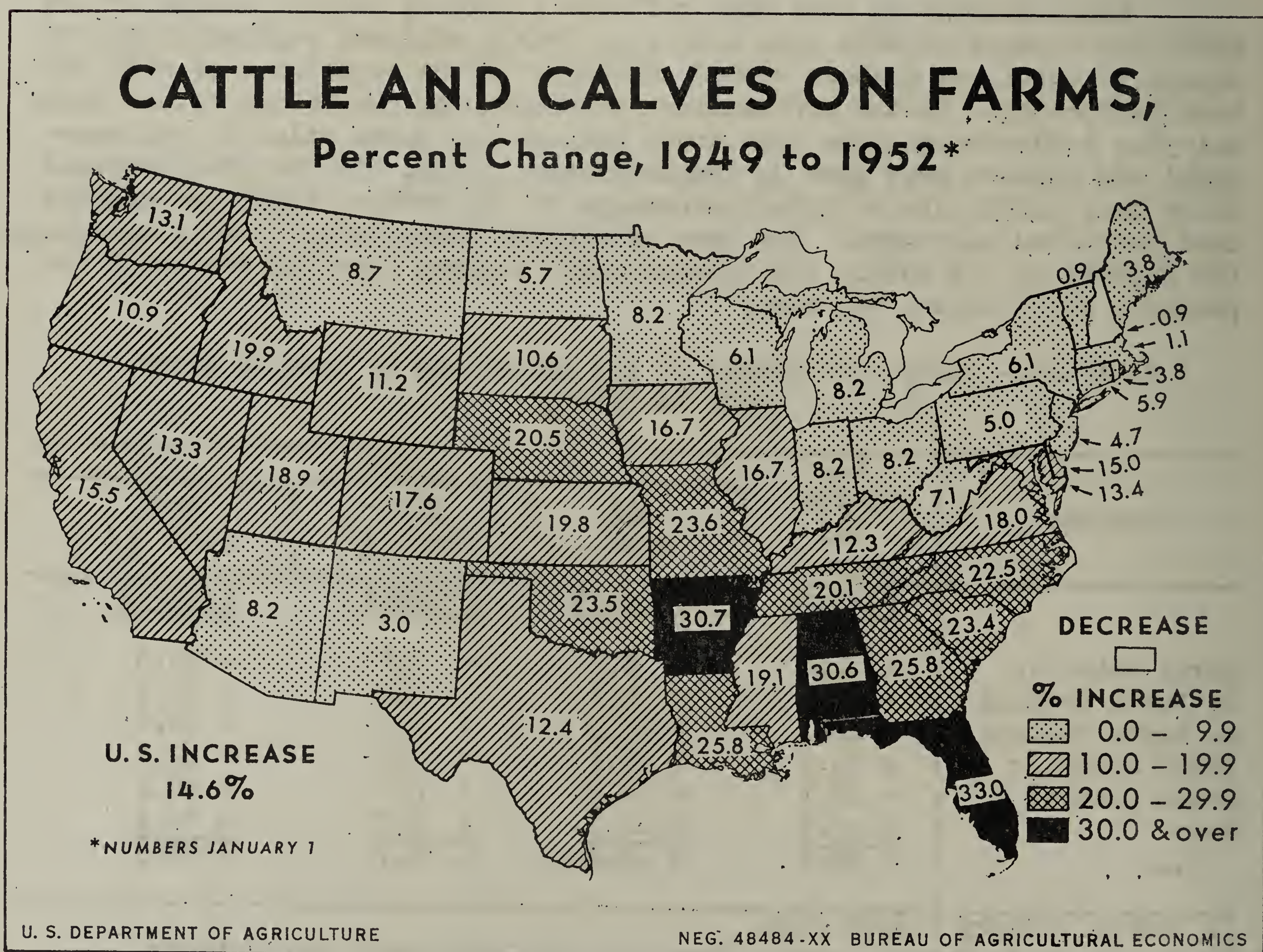
Since changes in beef cows differed little by regions except in the West, and changes in milk cows also were fairly uniform, regional rates of change in total cow numbers varied according to the importance of milk and beef production. In the northeastern one-fourth of the United States where dairying predominates--the East North Central and North Atlantic regions--total cow numbers have gone up comparatively little. In the other regions where beef cattle are a higher percentage of all cattle, total cow numbers have increased much more. The same conclusion holds true, broadly speaking, for numbers of all cattle and calves: dairy regions have had the least expansion, beef regions the most.

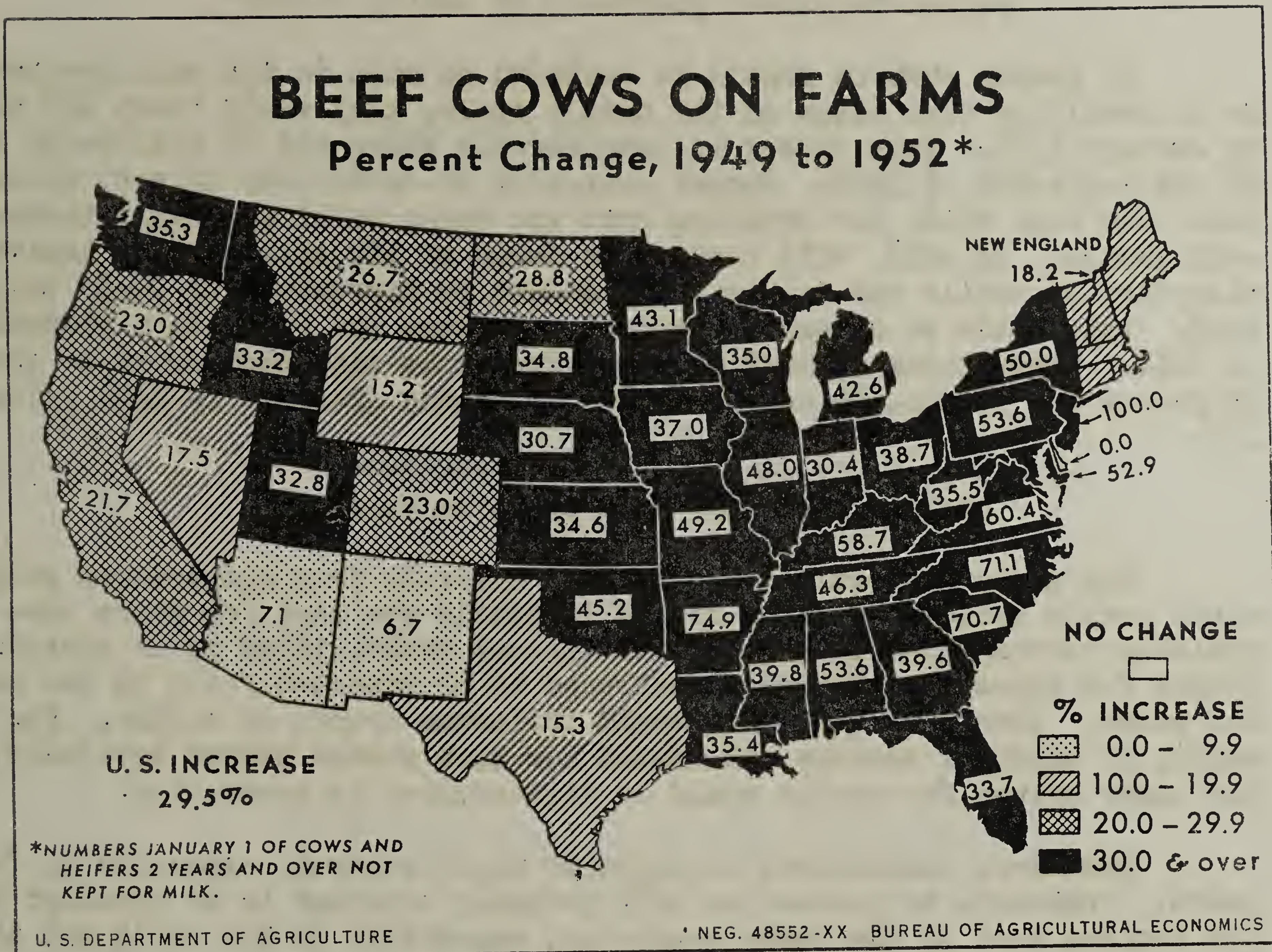
Table 14.- Change in numbers of all cattle and of cows on farms, 1949 to 1952 1/

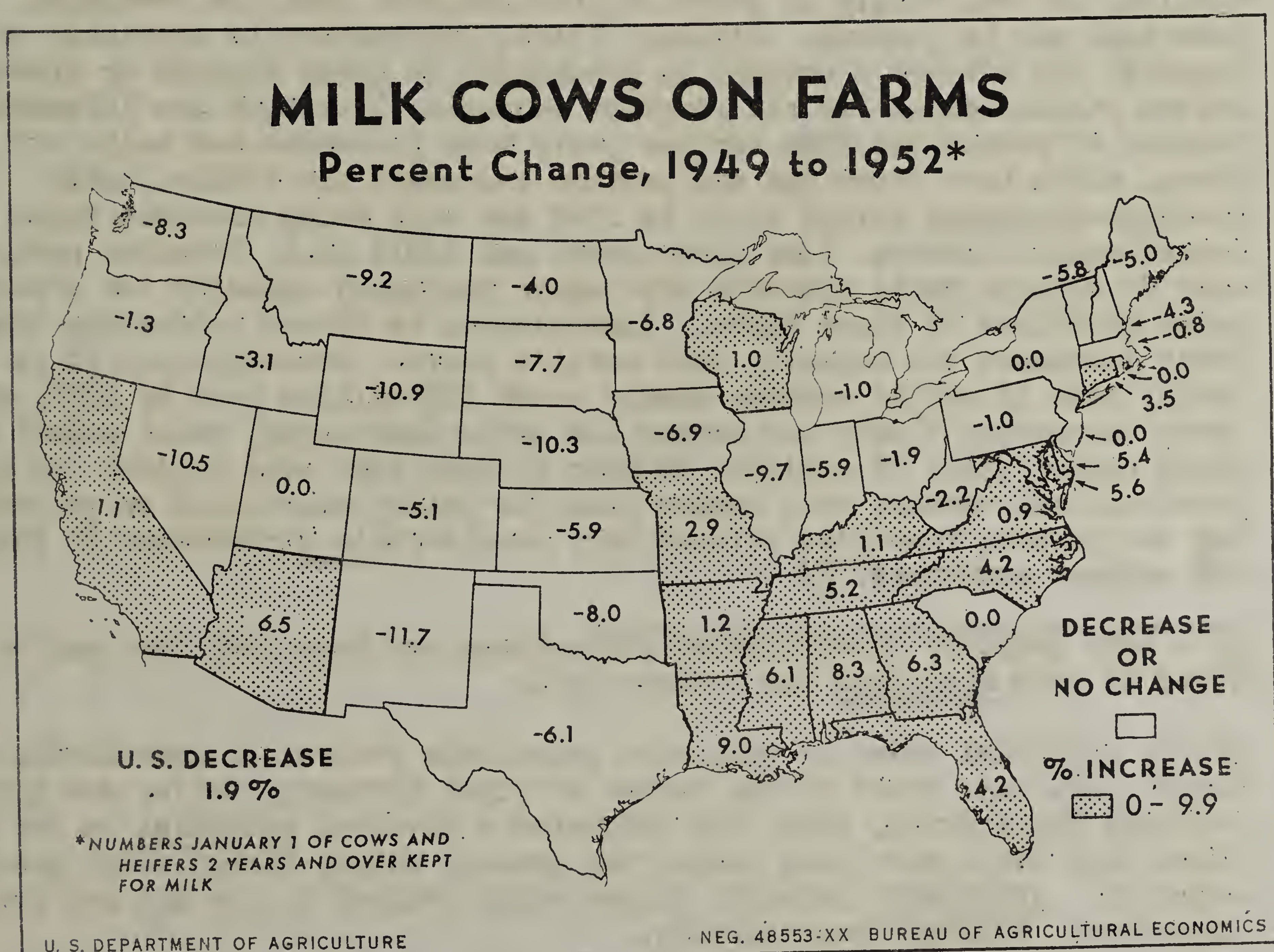
Region	All cattle and calves	Cows		
		All cows	Milk cows 3/	Beef cows 4/
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
North Atlantic	+ 4.8	- 0.2	- 1.0	+ 46.3
E. North Central	+ 9.7	+ 1.8	- 2.4	+ 41.3
W. North Central	+ 16.1	+ 12.4	- 5.2	+ 35.8
South Atlantic	+ 22.1	+ 16.1	+ 2.9	+ 42.3
South Central 2/	+ 18.1	+ 15.5	+ 0.5	+ 28.2
West	+ 12.8	+ 12.5	- 2.7	+ 20.1
U.S.	+ 14.6	+ 10.6	- 1.9	+ 29.5

1/ Number January 1 each year.
2/ In the South Central except for Texas the respective percentages were + 22.6, + 19.8, + 2.5 and + 47.0.
3/ Cows and heifers 2 years and over for milk.
4/ Cows and heifers 2 years and over not for milk.

Throughout Eastern regions, beef cow numbers have apparently been built up about as rapidly as was possible. A slower rate of increase in the Mountain and Pacific West may be accounted for by several factors: new practices for pasture improvement may have made more progress in the East--especially the Southeast--than the West; limited rainfall in the West prevents as much increase in grazing capacity through use of fertilizers and other practices there as in the humid East; in regions east of the Rocky Mountains, dual-purpose cows are more numerous and their shift from milk to beef classification has provided a part of the increase in beef cows there; acreage diversion from cash crops to hay and pasture has been more extensive in Eastern regions than in the Mountain and Pacific West; and finally, the 1951 drought in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona limited expansion in cattle production in those States.




BEEF COWS ON FARMS
Percent Change, 1949 to 1952*
35.3
26.7
28.8
23.0
33.2
15.2
43.1
34.8
35.0
42.6
50.0
NEW ENGLAND
18.2
17.5
32.8
21.7
23.0
30.7
37.0
48.0
30.4
38.7
53.6
100.0
0.0
52.9
34.6
49.2
35.5
60.4
58.7
7.1
6.7
45.2
74.9
46.3
71.1
70.7
39.8
53.6
39.6
15.3
35.4
33.7
NO CHANGE
% INCREASE
0.0 - 9.9
10.0 - 19.9
20.0 - 29.9
30.0 & over
U. S. INCREASE
29.5%
*NUMBERS JANUARY 1 OF COWS AND HEIFERS 2 YEARS AND OVER NOT KEPT FOR MILK.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48552-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS


MILK COWS ON FARMS
Percent Change, 1949 to 1952*
-8.3
-9.2
-4.0
-1.3
-6.8
-5.8
-5.0
-4.3
-0.8
-3.1
-7.7
1.0
-1.0
0.0
0.0
3.5
-10.9
-1.0
-6.9
-10.5
-10.3
0.0
5.4
1.1
0.0
-9.7
-5.9
-1.9
5.6
-5.1
-2.2
0.9
-5.9
2.9
1.1
4.2
5.2
-8.0
1.2
0.0
6.5
-11.7
6.1
8.3
6.3
-6.1
9.0
4.2
DECREASE OR NO CHANGE
% INCREASE
0 - 9.9
U. S. DECREASE
1.9 %
*NUMBERS JANUARY 1 OF COWS AND HEIFERS 2 YEARS AND OVER KEPT FOR MILK
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48553-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Future Expansion Indicated by Cattle "Cycle"

If cattle numbers should be expanded as much in the next few years as is usual for that stage of the cattle cycle, they would reach 100 million by January 1955. This number is considerably above the 88 million on farms at the beginning of 1952. Annual slaughter of cattle and calves, which has been held down while the breeding herd was being built up, would increase much faster. In 1955, with numbers on farms at 100 million, the equivalent slaughter of cattle and calves would amount to approximately 38-39 million head. This would be almost 50 percent more than the 26 million slaughtered in 1951. Consumption of beef produced from this slaughter would be about 70 pounds per person, 14 more than the 56 pounds consumed in 1951 2/(table 15).

Grazing Resources as a Limit to Expansion

The above projections are derived entirely from comparisons with previous cattle cycles. Just as trends in cattle the last few years have not entirely corresponded to a so-called typical cycle, there is no certain reason for expecting previous experience to be repeated fully in the next few years. Events in that time could influence trends in cattle. For example, if consumer incomes and demand for meat should weaken seriously, the lower prices for cattle would be discouraging to production.

Moreover, limitations to capacity might restrain expansion in future years. Increases in production will probably continue to be greatest in the regions east of the Rocky mountains, especially in the South and the Plains regions. The fact that the really big rate of expansion has been confined to beef cattle in those regions suggests that the remaining potential may be limited. Although little information is available on the capacity for further increases in production in those regions or elsewhere, United States totals for all roughage consuming livestock are informative. Because of reductions from earlier years both in horses and mules and in sheep, which have freed hay and pasture resources for cattle, total roughage-consuming animal units in 1952 are well below previous highs despite record cattle numbers. (See cover chart and table 16.) Previous peaks of near 80 million units probably were above sustained capacity for grazing under practices of those times. Improvements in forage production have probably increased the capacity over earlier years. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that if cattle numbers should reach 100 million head by 1955, with sheep increasing slowly and horses and mules decreasing, total animal units would number about 80 million, as many or more than ever before. It is problematical whether this number could be safely maintained on present hay and grazing resources without very considerable improvement in range and pasture practices. 3/

2/ A more complete discussion of projections and bases for them may be found in this Situation for October 1951.

3/ The potential under an intensive grasslands program is undoubtedly very large. Mr. W.M. Myers of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, USDA, has estimated a physical potential in the South alone that would more than double the present United States total grazing capacity. Attainable capacity is now being studied by the BAE and State Experiment tations cooperatively.

Table 15.- Number of cattle and calves on farms and slaughtered, and quantity of beef and veal produced and consumed, 1940-51 and projections to 1955

Year	Number on farms Jan. 1	Slaughter: Cattle	Slaughter: Calves	Meat produced: Beef: Per head slaughtered	Meat produced: Beef: Total	Meat produced: Veal: Per head slaughtered	Meat produced: Veal: Total	Meat consumed per person: Beef	Meat consumed per person: Veal
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Pounds	Mil. lb.	Pounds	Mil. lb.	Pounds	Pounds
1940	68,309	14,958	9,089	480	7,175	108	981	54.7	7.4
1941	71,755	16,419	9,252	492	8,082	112	1,036	60.5	7.6
1942	76,025	18,033	9,718	490	8,843	118	1,151	60.8	8.2
1943	81,204	17,845	9,940	480	8,571	117	1,167	52.9	8.2
1944	85,334	19,844	14,242	459	9,112	122	1,738	55.3	12.4
1945	85,573	21,691	13,645	474	10,275	122	1,661	59.0	11.8
1946	82,235	19,824	12,168	473	9,373	118	1,440	61.3	9.9
1947	80,554	22,393	13,695	466	10,428	117	1,599	69.1	10.7
1948	77,171	19,186	12,328	473	9,079	115	1,412	62.6	9.4
1949	76,830	18,789	11,345	503	9,448	117	1,322	63.5	8.7
1950	77,963	18,642	10,435	512	9,543	117	1,216	63.0	7.9
1951	82,025	1/17,140	1/8,877	1/517	1/8,855	1/118	1/1,048	1/56.2	1/6.5
	Projections based on trends in past cattle cycles								
1952	1/88,062	19,200	9,450	514	9,850	120	1,125	60	7
1953	92,300	20,100	10,000	505	10,150	119	1,200	63	7
1954	97,000	22,100	11,700	490	10,800	120	1,400	66	9
1955 2/	100,000	24,000	14,700	480	11,500	120	1,750	70	11

1/ Preliminary estimate.
2/ Slaughter in 1955 based on a nearly stationary level of cattle numbers.
Revises table 3 of this Situation for October 1951.

Table 16.- Units of roughage-consuming livestock fed each year beginning October 1, 1909-51 1/

(Data for cover page chart)

Year beginning October 1	Cattle	Sheep and goats	Horses and mules	Other 2/	Total
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1909	41,244	9,947	17,436	908	69,535
1910	40,394	10,010	17,856	1,012	69,272
1911	39,731	9,484	18,133	995	68,343
1912	40,207	8,841	18,406	975	68,429
1913	41,722	8,532	18,758	968	69,980
1914	44,097	8,022	19,006	1,021	72,146
1915	46,118	7,922	19,074	1,049	74,163
1916	48,102	7,699	19,245	1,007	76,053
1917	49,296	7,853	19,414	1,065	77,628
1918	48,858	8,291	19,401	1,113	77,663
1919	48,031	8,143	19,066	1,051	76,291
1920	47,141	7,829	18,771	1,025	74,766
1921	47,670	7,328	18,500	1,073	74,571
1922	47,126	7,223	18,158	1,186	73,693
1923	46,614	7,331	17,661	1,185	72,791
1924	45,282	7,645	17,140	1,079	71,146
1925	43,590	8,036	16,670	1,047	69,343
1926	42,042	8,518	16,060	1,104	67,724
1927	41,422	9,141	15,490	1,184	67,237
1928	42,278	9,758	14,957	1,161	68,154
1929	43,408	10,309	14,481	1,157	69,355
1930	44,886	10,755	13,971	1,125	70,737
1931	46,894	10,734	13,478	1,170	72,276
1932	49,696	10,608	13,120	1,204	74,628
1933	52,542	10,739	12,918	1,157	77,356
1934	48,940	10,269	12,501	903	72,613
1935	48,140	10,150	12,067	977	71,334
1936	46,857	10,162	11,671	998	69,688
1937	46,050	10,140	11,195	971	68,356
1938	45,988	10,296	10,829	1,078	68,191
1939	47,805	10,453	10,595	1,210	70,063
1940	49,962	10,771	10,303	1,122	72,158
1941	52,807	11,151	10,009	1,248	75,215
1942	56,086	10,896	9,763	1,461	78,206
1943	58,963	10,053	9,318	1,610	79,944
1944	59,492	9,179	8,746	1,309	78,726
1945	57,514	8,305	8,188	1,340	75,347
1946	56,400	7,425	7,474	1,206	72,505
1947	54,216	6,811	6,829	1,163	69,019
1948	53,648	6,130	6,238	1,180	67,196
1949	54,349	5,955	5,695	1,242	67,241
1950	56,501	6,161	5,165	1,285	69,112
1951 3/	60,003	6,365	4,585	1,319	72,272

1/ Hay, pasture and other roughage consumed by one milk cow in a year equals one unit.
2/ Hogs and poultry.
3/ Preliminary

Digest of OPS and NPA Regulations Affecting Meat and Meat Animals

This list supplements those appearing in earlier issues of this Situation. These lists are compiled for their reference value now and in the future. Questions regarding the application of the regulations should be referred to the Agency administering them.

Issued by the Office of Price Stabilization, Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Procedural Regulation 1 Issued March 11, 1952 Effective March 17, 1952	Prescribes the procedure to be followed in the suspension and revocation of slaughtering registrations, and sets up the machinery for appeals from meat distribution orders.
Distribution Regulation 1 Revision 1 Issued March 11, 1952 Effective March 17, 1952	Clarifies and consolidates changes that have been made in DR 1 and makes various additional amendments.
Distribution Regulation 1 Revision 1 Amendment 1 Issued March 27, 1952 Effective March 27, 1952	Makes clear that documents filed with OPS under DR 1 are to be treated as if filed under DR 1, Rev. 1.
Distribution Regulation 2 Amendment 5 Issued March 25, 1952 Effective April 1, 1952	Exempts "baby lambs" from grading and grademarking requirements during April 1952.
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 97 Issued April 8, 1952 Effective April 8, 1952	Permits a small increase in the GCPR ceiling price for locally produced beef on the island of Hawaii.
Ceiling Price Regulation 2 Revision 2 Amendment 1 Issued April 25, 1952 Effective April 28, 1952	Suspends CPR 2, Rev. 2 (covering cattle-hides, kips, calfskins and cut parts for leather) until prices rise to re-control levels or until terminated or modified by the Director of Price Stabilization.
Ceiling Price Regulation 14 Amendment 12 Issued March 20, 1952 Effective March 25, 1952	Grants wholesale grocers permission to add increased transportation costs to the present zone differentials or to present freight charges.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1 Interpretation 1 Issued March 31, 1952 Effective March 31, 1952	Defines the size of cuts which may be sold as boneless chuck (a minimum of $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch cubes).

Continued - page 32.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Mar. Ave. 1951	Jan.-Mar. Ave. 1952	1951 March	1952 Feb.	1952 Mar.	1952 Apr.
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	39.29	37.14	40.03	37.07	37.58	
Choice	do.	35.81	34.65	36.67	34.57	34.69	
Good	do.	32.94	31.84	33.86	31.90	31.34	
Commercial	do.	30.80	28.96	31.97	29.12	28.17	
Utility	do.	28.61	26.19	29.96	26.46	25.38	
All grades	do.	34.87	33.81	35.62	33.78	33.41	
Omaha, all grades	do.	33.79	32.38	34.42	32.32	31.90	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	33.77	32.09	34.40	32.16	31.49	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	26.46	24.09	27.86	23.71	24.29	
Utility	do.	24.45	21.89	25.46	21.65	22.07	
Canner and Cutter	do.	21.28	19.09	22.19	18.98	19.26	
Vealers, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	37.07	37.60	36.65	38.15	37.80	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	33.81	31.75	35.12	32.06	31.99	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	28.67	27.47	29.80	27.60	27.60	27.80
Veal calves	do.	32.23	31.60	33.20	31.90	31.40	31.10
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	21.35	17.00	21.16	16.82	16.59	
180-200 pounds	do.	22.18	17.89	21.89	17.94	17.22	
200-220 pounds	do.	22.23	17.93	22.12	18.02	17.36	
220-240 pounds	do.	22.11	17.66	22.11	17.70	17.15	
240-270 pounds	do.	21.82	17.19	22.02	17.20	16.78	
270-300 pounds	do.	21.44	16.71	21.76	16.73	16.34	
All weights	do.	21.79	17.30	21.94	17.33	16.77	
Eight markets 3/	do.	21.56	17.05	21.66	17.00	16.71	
Sows, Chicago	do.	18.90	15.12	19.54	15.18	15.11	
Price received by farmers	do.	21.03	17.10	21.20	17.20	16.70	16.40
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.3	9.3	12.4	9.6	9.1	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.3	10.3	13.2	10.4	10.1	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	22.00	14.74	23.21	14.81	14.56	
Price received by farmers	do.	17.63	13.27	19.40	13.30	13.10	13.60
Lambs							
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	38.01	28.24	40.93	27.78	26.96	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	5/33.62	---	---	---	---	
Price received by farmers	do.	32.90	26.87	35.20	26.80	25.60	26.40
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		415	375	428	377	372	372
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	55.40	55.25	55.74	55.06	54.64	
Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 pounds	do.	54.77	6/54.13	55.15	6/52.19	6/53.00	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	23.60	19.20	23.85	18.88	18.83	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.40	26.36	32.74	25.92	25.85	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	26.60	22.25	26.69	21.82	22.00	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	37.30	31.20	37.42	30.59	30.85	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	84.3	87.7	84.8	87.9	86.9	
Lamb	do.	74.1	76.3	73.5	75.9	71.3	
Pork, including lard	do.	45.0	40.7	45.5	40.4	39.4	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1947-49=100)		117	114	119	119	119	
Retail (1935-39=100) 7/		270	271	272	271	269	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Price for January 1951.
6/ Prices for Feb. and March are 40-50 lb. carcass.
7/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-March 1951	Jan.-March 1952	1951 March	1952 Feb.	1952 Mar.	1952 Apr.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		141	156	131	148	147	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	433	434	131	158	143	
Sheep and lambs	do.	323	351	93	109	119	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	3,012	3,009	965	985	927	
Calves	do.	1,255	1,122	447	343	397	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,536	3,004	738	990	971	
Hogs	do.	15,860	18,390	5,117	5,779	5,776	
Percentage sows	Percent						
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	1,016	1,012	1,007	1,013	1,004	
Calves	do.	177	188	162	191	173	
Sheep and lambs	do.	103	104	105	104	105	
Hogs	do.	246	244	240	245	239	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	556	564	557	567	561	
Veal, per head	do.	99	107	94	110	99	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	49	49	50	50	50	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	136	134	134	134	132	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	56	55	55	
Lard, per head	do.	36	37	34	38	37	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	14	16	16	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	1,667	1,688	535	556	518	
Veal	do.	124	119	42	37	39	
Lamb and mutton	do.	123	148	37	49	48	
Pork 2/	do.	2,151	2,463	684	771	760	
Lard	do.	571	682	176	221	213	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	4,102	4,110	1,301	1,326	1,275	
Calves	do.	2,173	1,996	761	614	700	
Sheep and lambs	do.	2,721	3,224	798	1,060	1,038	
Hogs	do.	19,274	22,331	6,168	7,048	7,005	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,188	2,217	696	721	685	
Veal	do.	220	211	73	66	70	
Lamb and mutton	do.	130	157	39	52	51	
Pork 2/	do.	2,586	2,952	817	930	909	
Lard	do.	653	780	201	252	245	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	149	240	254	254
Veal	do.	---	---	8	16	12	19
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	9	14	14	16
Pork	do.	---	---	642	705	794	810
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	918	1,096	1,210	1,237

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

BAE-LMS-59-4/52-5300
Permit No. 1001

Penalty for private use to avoid payment of postage $300

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 25, Revised Amendment 3 Issued April 10, 1952 Effective April 10, 1952	Grants retailers who have customarily made sales of primal cuts of beef in the past authority to make such sales. Also allows ceiling price adjustments for some route truck sellers of beef.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 2 Issued April 11, 1952 Effective April 16, 1952	Makes miscellaneous changes in CPR 74 primarilly easing the restrictions on wholesale sales of pork cuts. Extends the filing date for dried and specialty pork items to May 16.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 2 Issued March 7, 1952 Effective March 7, 1952	Makes a number of clarifications and changes in the regulation covering wholesale lamb, yearling and mutton.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 3 Issued March 25, 1952 Effective April 1, 1952	Sets up dollars-and-cents ceiling price for baby lamb carcasses during the month of April 1952.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 4 Issued March 22, 1952 Effective March 22, 1952	Suspends the allocation provision of the lamb and mutton regulation (CPR 92) until further notice.
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 2 Issued April 22, 1952 Effective April 28, 1952	Makes various changes in the provisions and pricing schedules of CPR 101. Permits experimental cutting and packaging of veal on a contract basis for defense procurement agencies.
Ceiling Price Regulation 124 Amendment 1 Issued March 10, 1952 Effective March 15, 1952	Limits the application of CPR 124 to territorial United States by excluding territories and possessions.
Ceiling Price Regulation 129 Issued March 14, 1952 Effective March 19, 1952	Places dollars-and-cents wholesale and retail ceiling prices on horsemeat and horsemeat products.

FOR RELEASE
JULY 11, P. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

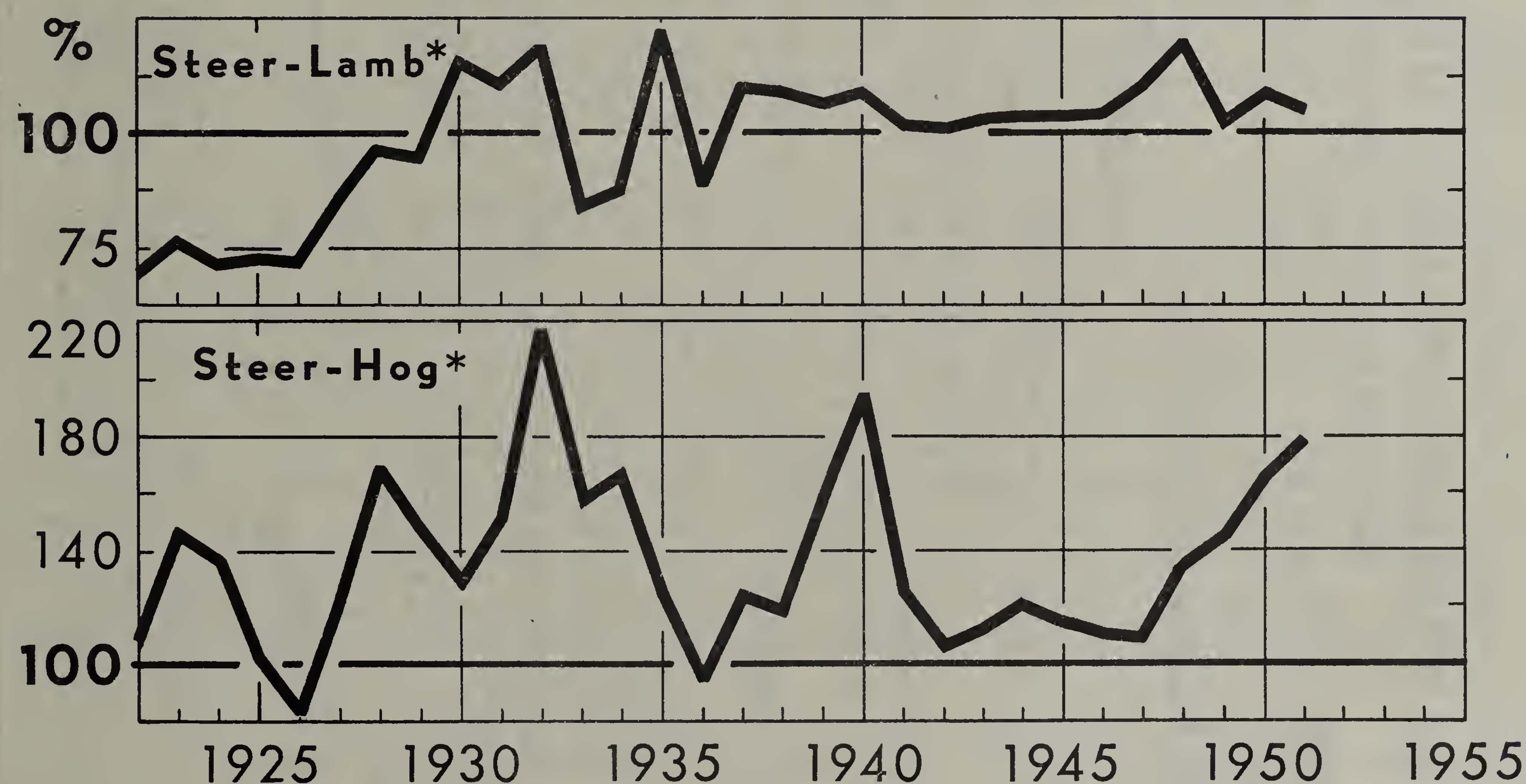
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-60 BAE MAY - JUNE 1952

In this issue:

Livestock Numbers and Meat Supplies in Relation to Population, 1900-52
Revised Data on Meat Production and Consumption, 1944-51

PRICE RATIO, CHOICE STEERS TO LAMBS AND HOGS

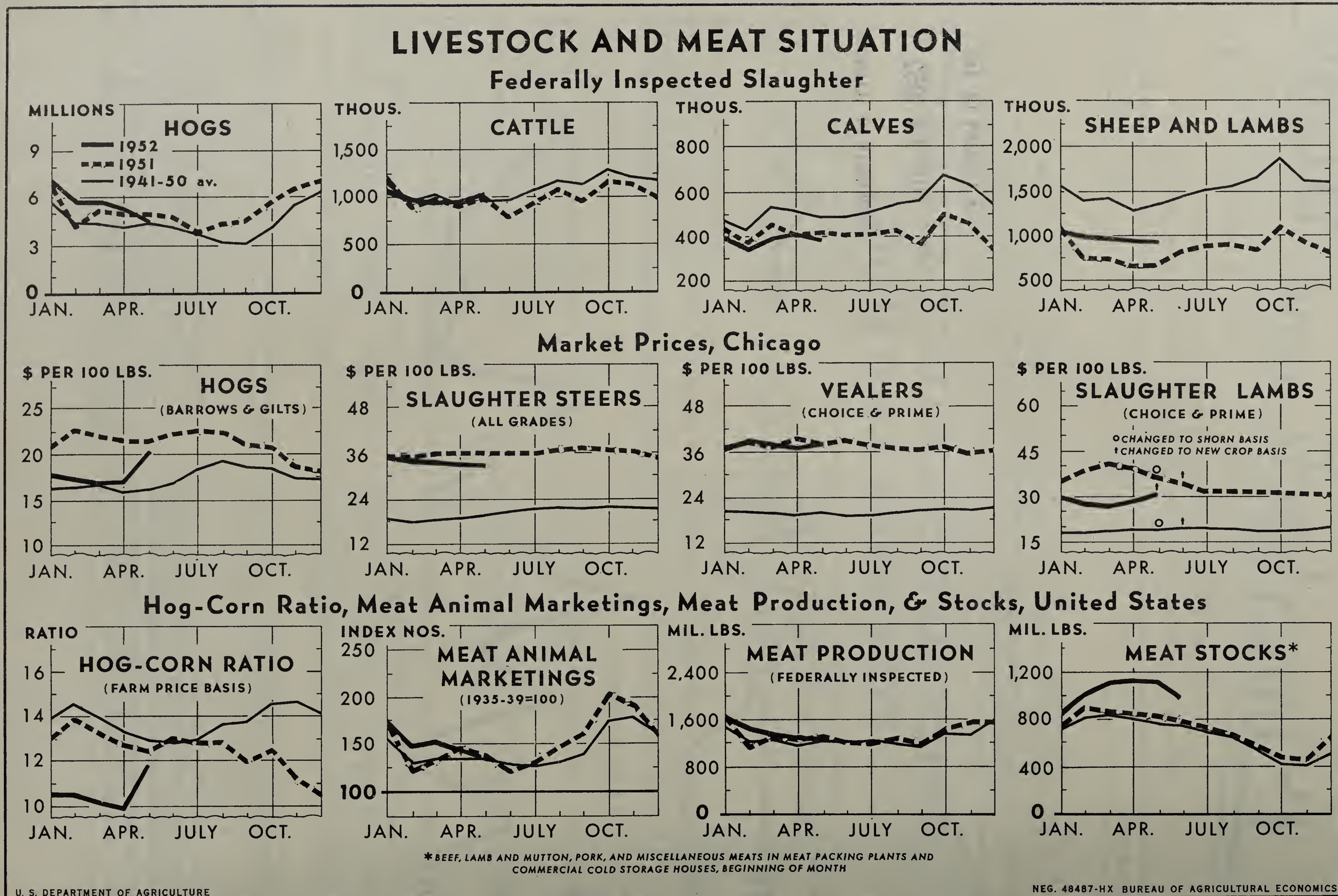


*BASED ON CHICAGO PRICES OF CHOICE SLAUGHTER STEERS AND PRIME AND CHOICE SLAUGHTER LAMBS AND ON U. S. AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR HOGS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 48406-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Prices of Choice beef steers in the last few years have been a little above their average ratio to prices of lambs and have been considerably above the average ratio to prices of hogs. The 1951 steer-hog price ratio had been exceeded only twice in 30 years.

Hog production in 1952 and probably in 1953 will be below 1951. Cattle slaughter is expected to increase substantially in the next few years. Therefore the steer-hog price ratio in the future probably will be closer to average than in recent years.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1952
1951
1941-50 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN.
APR.
JULY
OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
48
36
24
12
VEALERS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
250
200
150
100
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48487-HX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, June 24, 1952

SUMMARY

Although total livestock slaughter and meat production in the first half of the year was well above a year earlier, in the second half of 1952 it will be little if any larger than in the last six months of 1951. Cattle slaughter is rising from last year's level, but the rise is slower than the decrease which is occurring in hog slaughter. The slaughter outlook points to generally continued strength in prices of meat animals, especially hogs, as long as consumer demand for meat does not weaken. Prices of fed cattle may pick up a little in early fall, while prices of grass cattle and of lambs are more likely to decline seasonally at the fall period of largest marketings.

Commercial cattle slaughter in the first 6 months was about 5 percent larger than a year earlier. In the remainder of the year it is likely to be up still more. However, slaughter will not be of sufficient volume to check appreciably the expansion of cattle numbers on farms. Cattle numbers rose by 6 million head in 1951, a new high record. Unless slaughter is stepped up substantially in the rest of 1952, another 5 million or more cattle and calves will be added to herds this year.

With cattle slaughter in the first half of 1952 only moderately larger than a year earlier, prices of cattle during most of that time were only a little below last year. Unless slaughter increases more than appears likely, prices are expected to continue not greatly below those of a year earlier for the rest of the year. Declines in prices of cattle in recent weeks, particularly for stockers and feeders, were due chiefly to a pick-up in receipts and a somewhat lower demand for cattle to go on pastures or into feed lots. Prices of fed cattle weakened during the spring under pressure of seasonally large marketings, but may increase somewhat in early fall. Prices of grass cattle are expected to decrease at least seasonally as marketings expand near the end of the grazing season. At that time prices of grass cattle are likely to be farther below 1951 than will prices of fed cattle.

Commercial hog slaughter in the first 6 months of 1952 was about 7½ percent larger than last year. The increase occurred entirely in the first 4 months; in May and June slaughter was below last year. Slaughter will continue below a year earlier throughout 1952 and well into 1953. The 9 percent reduction in the 1952 spring pig crop from the 1951 spring crop will be reflected in a similar reduction from last year in hog slaughter this fall and winter. If farmers carry out their intentions to have 9 percent fewer sows farrow fall pigs, hog slaughter and pork production in the spring and summer of 1953 will be reduced by at least that much.

By late June prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago were about $3.50 per 100 pounds higher than at their low in early April but were $2.50

lower than on the same date last year. A further rise is in prospect, to a seasonal high in August or September. Price ceilings on pork may have some influence on precisely how high hog prices may go at that time. A seasonal decline in hog prices is in prospect for this fall but it may be no greater than average and prices may be as high or higher than a year earlier.

Prices of lambs declined in mid-June after a period of relative stability above their late winter low. A seasonal price decrease seems likely when marketings are largest this fall.

Consumption of beef per person in the second half of 1952 will be larger than a year earlier and consumption of pork will be smaller. Consumption of all meat during the second half of 1952 will be no larger than last year unless marketings of cattle this fall are unusually large. As meat consumption per person in the first half of 1952 was a little above last year, consumption for all of 1952 seems likely to exceed last year's 137.7 pounds by about 2 pounds.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Spring Pig Crop 9 Percent Smaller

The 56.6 million pigs saved in the spring crop of 1952 was 9 percent smaller than the spring crop of 1951. This is the first decrease in a spring crop since 1948, and the crop was the sixth largest of record. Over one million fewer sows farrowed this spring than last. But the average size of litter was 6.64 pigs, the highest on record for the spring pig crop.

The greatest reduction in the number of spring pigs occurred in the West North Central States, where 14 percent fewer pigs were saved this spring than in 1951. However, the Western States showed a slightly larger percentage decrease. The reduction in the East North Central States was 4 percent. Regions outside the Corn Belt averaged a 3 percent drop, although the North and South Atlantic States saved more pigs this spring than last.

The reduction of 11 percent in sows farrowing is greater than the 8 percent cut planned by farmers last December. A prolonged low level of hog prices this past winter was a big factor in bringing about the larger reduction.

Spring pigs were farrowed a little earlier on the average this spring than last. A tendency towards earlier farrowings has prevailed for several years. Earlier average dates of farrowings this year nevertheless came about chiefly because farrowings were reduced most in late spring months..

Table 1.- Number of sows farrowing, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States and by regions, average 1937-41, annual 1944-52

SPRING PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
				Sows farrowing			
1937-41 av.	140	2,016	3,417	580	1,069	312	7,534
1944	198	2,416	4,301	772	1,227	332	9,246
1945	158	2,129	4,111	620	1,024	260	8,302
1946	148	2,169	3,861	630	1,017	252	8,077
1947	159	2,311	4,230	639	979	230	8,548
1948	153	2,111	3,718	608	987	256	7,833
1949	165	2,394	4,319	633	1,053	256	8,820
1950	145	2,554	4,568	631	1,048	228	9,174
1951	153	2,625	4,855	683	1,026	249	9,591
1952 1/	157	2,468	4,056	721	912	216	8,530
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	886	12,961	21,472	3,377	6,157	1,948	46,801
1944	1,316	15,193	25,568	4,482	7,162	2,033	55,754
1945	1,027	14,176	25,756	3,635	6,003	1,619	52,216
1946	998	14,559	25,226	3,732	6,073	1,603	52,191
1947	1,029	14,265	25,812	3,790	5,857	1,446	52,199
1948	1,010	14,052	24,062	3,714	6,030	1,600	50,468
1949	1,107	15,909	27,835	3,909	6,570	1,639	56,969
1950	920	16,177	28,905	3,971	6,534	1,428	57,935
1951	1,016	17,238	31,463	4,273	6,430	1,587	62,007
1952 1/	1,072	16,598	27,095	4,601	5,899	1,342	56,607
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.32	6.45	6.30	5.82	5.76	6.24	6.22
1944	6.63	6.29	5.94	5.81	5.84	6.12	6.03
1945	6.48	6.66	6.26	5.87	5.86	6.22	6.29
1946	6.76	6.71	6.53	5.92	5.97	6.35	6.46
1947	6.48	6.17	6.10	5.93	5.98	6.27	6.11
1948	6.58	6.65	6.47	6.11	6.11	6.26	6.44
1949	6.73	6.65	6.44	6.17	6.24	6.39	6.46
1950	6.36	6.33	6.33	6.29	6.23	6.26	6.31
1951	6.63	6.57	6.48	6.26	6.27	6.38	6.47
1952 1/	6.83	6.73	6.68	6.38	6.47	6.23	6.64

FALL PIG CROP

Year	North Atlantic	North Central East	North Central West	South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
				Sows farrowing			
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1937-41 av.	127	1,471	1,480	507	963	254	4,802
1944	135	1,536	1,544	552	914	201	4,882
1945	142	1,705	1,848	558	976	200	5,429
1946	121	1,515	1,447	585	877	159	4,704
1947	121	1,557	1,530	583	901	174	4,866
1948	126	1,609	1,690	551	904	190	5,070
1949	123	1,800	1,941	565	951	188	5,568
1950	119	1,970	2,183	561	924	166	5,923
1951	126	2,015	2,269	611	879	189	6,089
1952	123	1,895	2,046	598	747	157	2/5,566
				Pigs saved			
1937-41 av.	844	9,756	9,400	3,051	5,769	1,608	30,428
1944	909	10,164	9,782	3,276	5,500	1,274	30,905
1945	937	11,224	11,761	3,401	6,007	1,281	34,611
1946	818	10,194	9,578	3,578	5,348	987	30,503
1947	831	10,199	9,732	3,584	5,627	1,117	31,090
1948	865	10,917	11,184	3,452	5,717	1,223	33,358
1949	831	11,925	12,694	3,531	6,059	1,235	36,275
1950	815	13,289	14,674	3,552	5,998	1,076	39,404
1951	872	13,508	14,899	3,975	5,704	1,224	40,182
1952							2/36,500
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1937-41 av.	6.63	6.63	6.34	6.02	5.99	6.31	6.33
1944	6.71	6.62	6.35	5.94	6.02	6.35	6.33
1945	6.57	6.58	6.36	6.10	6.15	6.41	6.38
1946	6.72	6.73	6.62	6.12	6.10	6.23	6.49
1947	6.82	6.55	6.36	6.14	6.25	6.45	6.39
1948	6.88	6.78	6.62	6.27	6.32	6.43	6.58
1949	6.77	6.62	6.54	6.25	6.37	6.55	6.52
1950	6.83	6.74	6.72	6.33	6.49	6.50	6.65
1951	6.92	6.70	6.57	6.51	6.49	6.47	6.60
1952							2/6.60

1/ Preliminary

2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of June 1, 1952; average number of pigs per litter adjusted for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, spring season, United States, average 1937-41 and annual 1948-52

Year	Dec. 1/	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Total
	Number of sows farrowing						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1937-41 av.	290	409	791	1,999	2,605	1,440	7,534
1948	254	350	746	2,122	2,838	1,523	7,833
1949	283	441	958	2,567	3,026	1,545	8,820
1950	249	416	1,089	2,803	3,084	1,533	9,174
1951	288	491	1,237	2,752	3,103	1,720	9,591
1952	268	483	1,209	2,402	2,598	1,570	8,530
	Percent of total sows farrowing						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937-41 av.	3.9	5.4	10.5	26.5	34.6	19.1	100.0
1948	3.2	4.5	9.5	27.1	36.2	19.5	100.0
1949	3.2	5.0	10.9	29.1	34.3	17.5	100.0
1950	2.7	4.5	11.9	30.6	33.6	16.7	100.0
1951	3.0	5.1	12.9	28.7	32.4	17.9	100.0
1952	3.1	5.7	14.2	28.2	30.4	18.4	100.0

1/ December of preceding year.

Fall Crop Intentions 9 Percent Below Last Fall

Farmers' intentions on June 1 called for 9 percent fewer sows to farrow fall pigs this year than in 1951. This would be the first decline in a fall crop since 1946. The Western States, with 17 percent fewer sows to farrow, lead in the percentage contraction in fall as well as spring pigs. The Corn Belt States plan an 8 percent smaller fall crop and all States combined outside the Corn Belt indicate 11 percent fewer fall pigs this year.

Smaller Feed Supplies and Lower Hog Prices Factors in Smaller Pig Crops

Less ample supplies of feed for this marketing year and lower hog prices have been the main factors causing smaller pig crops in 1952. Corn crops have decreased each year since 1948 when a bumper crop was harvested. The 1951 crop was the smallest crop since 1947, although larger than any crop prior to 1942. In the 1950-51 feeding year and again this year more corn has been utilized than was produced. The carryover of corn next October 1 will probably be about one-third smaller than last October.

Although prices for corn and most other feeds leveled off and even declined somewhat during the winter, they appeared most discouraging to hog producers during December-April when hog slaughter was large and hog prices low. By early May, the effect of curtailed farrowings began to show up as reduced marketings. Hog slaughter dropped below a year earlier, and prices climbed sharply. The price rise in May carried the hog-corn ratio from below to above average.

Hog Slaughter to Continue Smaller than 1951

Because of the smaller farrowings of past months, hog slaughter will continue less than in corresponding months of 1951. There is a good chance that the reduction below 1951 will be greater this fall, after sow slaughter begins to decline seasonally, than during mid-summer. This is especially likely if a big corn crop is in prospect, as hog marketings have been delayed in previous years when a larger corn crop followed a smaller one.

Rising Hog Prices Likely; Ceilings a Factor

Prices of hogs are likely to increase further this summer and to exceed prices last summer even though price ceilings for pork products may be a restraint. Ceilings are imposed on pork cuts and products at wholesale, with retailers limited as to their mark-ups. In June loins and hams were frequently at ceilings. If ceilings are not changed, more cuts will likely move to ceiling levels.

The large supplies of pork in cold storage will also tend to prevent as steep a climb in hog prices as otherwise would occur. On June 1, holdings were up 108 million pounds or 18 percent from the same date last year. Nevertheless, the increase represents only about 2 percent of the total quantity of pork that will be consumed in the last 6 months of this year.

Inasmuch as hog prices early this fall will be supported by the smaller hog slaughter expected at that time this year than last, the seasonal fall decline in hog prices promises to be no greater than usual. Prices may average a little above last fall. Moreover, prices are unlikely to remain depressed during the winter as they did last winter. Prices of hogs next winter could be considerably higher than last winter.

Cattle Slaughter to Exceed 1951; Prices Lower

Trends in cattle are likely to be generally opposite to those for hogs. Cattle production on farms has been expanding for several years. An increase in cattle slaughter is beginning, but it is appearing slowly. Prices of cattle are still higher than in most years and close to the record highs of 1951.

The course of cattle prices will be determined chiefly by how fast slaughter is increased. Commercial slaughter of cattle in the first 6 months was about 5 percent larger than a year earlier. The only large gain was in June, which in 1951 was a month of very small slaughter. The increases in slaughter have been less than had been expected, and less than enough to check appreciably the expansion in production on farms. Cattle numbers increased 6 million head during 1951. Cattle slaughter is expected to rise more than usual this fall. But even with a sizeably larger fall slaughter, cattle numbers on farms promise to be up at least 5 million head by the end of 1952.

Fed cattle have comprised an unusually large percentage of all cattle slaughtered this year. In the 5 months January to May, slaughter of steers under Federal inspection was up 5 percent from a year before. Slaughter of all cows was down 8 percent. But since slaughter of canner and cutter cattle (cows and bulls) was 3 percent larger in those months this year than last, slaughter of the better quality cows was reduced even more than 8 percent.

Slaughter of fed cattle will continue large this summer and is expected to exceed moderately the number slaughtered last summer. Fed cattle slaughter may drop below last year by November or December, since slaughter in those months last year was very large for the season. Nevertheless, cattle feeding seems to be holding up well this summer, with more feeder cattle moving from markets in May and early June this year than last, and a relatively large slaughter of fed cattle in late fall might occur again this year.

Prices of fed cattle declined in May and June in response to increasing marketings. Prices have been $2.00 to $4.00 per 100 pounds below last year. The seasonal rise in fed cattle prices which usually begins in late summer may appear again this year, but prices are likely to remain below 1951.

Prices of stocker and feeder cattle dipped sharply in June after almost 5 months of relatively little change. The average price of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City, which had previously held around $31.00 per 100 pounds, fell to $24.29 the week ending June 21. Prices of this class of steers usually weaken about this time of year but the decline was accentuated by a decreased demand for cattle to go on grass and by weaker slaughter cattle prices. This general slackening in demand resulted largely from unseasonably warm and dry weather prevailing over the main feeding and pasture areas and also in meat consuming centers of the country. Stocker and feeder prices are not expected to recover much of their loss this summer and a seasonal decline is likely this fall.

Indications are that the biggest increase in cattle slaughter the rest of this year compared with last will be in grass cattle. Numbers of cattle on pasture and range are probably materially larger than for several years. The Flint Hill and Osage pastures, for example, are stocked with a record number of cattle and calves despite receipts of about 8 percent fewer cattle this spring than last. However, a larger-than-usual proportion

of these cattle are cows which may not move to market this fall. As marketing of grass cattle increase more than usual this fall, their prices are likely to decline and to be farther below last year's prices than will the prices of fed cattle.

The long-run trend in cattle prices is almost certain to be downward. Only renewed and prolonged general price inflation would prevent such a trend. There is reason to believe that the optimism denoted by past prices for stocker and feeder cattle was based largely on current strong prices of slaughter cattle rather than on prospects for the future. Prices of stocker and feeder steers before the decline in June were within $3.00 per 100 pounds of prices a year earlier. Steer calves sold for only $1.00 less. However, another reason for high prices of stockers and feeders was the generally good condition of pastures and ranges, which made cheap gains possible. Recent lower feeder prices may conform better to future prospects.

So long as large increases in cattle slaughter are delayed, substantial price changes also will be postponed. However, it seems inevitable that prices of cattle will in the future not retain as high a relationship to prices of hogs and of wholesale milk as they did the last few years. (See cover chart and table 3.)

Lamb Slaughter Up in First Half of 1951; Less Increase Likely in Second Half

Commercial slaughter of sheep and lambs in the first 6 months of 1952 was about one-fourth larger than a year earlier. The substantial rise is attributed chiefly to increased numbers fed last winter and to a more normal pattern of marketing spring lambs. Last year, in contrast, an unusually large proportion of lambs were withheld from slaughter for building up breeding flocks and feed lot inventories. As the rate of retention on farms is expected to be lower this summer and fall than last, and because of larger numbers on farms, sheep and lamb slaughter in the second half of this year will show a gain over last year, but by a much smaller percentage than in the first half.

After reaching a low in mid-March prices of lambs strengthened slowly until mid-June when a sharp decline occurred along with the general break in livestock prices. As marketings pick up this fall, lamb prices are expected to move downward seasonally and will likely be well below the high prices of last fall.

Total Meat Production Unlikely to Continue as Much Above Last Year in Second Half as in First

In the first 6 months of 1952 total commercial production of meat registered a sizeable increase of around 6 percent from the same period of 1951. It was made up of a substantial percentage rise in pork and lamb and a smaller gain in beef. Meat production in the second half will not show a similar increase. Production of beef will be larger than last year,

Table 3.- Prices of beef steers and slaughter lambs at Chicago and price received by farmers for hogs and milk, and ratios of relationship between them, 1922-51
(Data for cover page chart)

Year	Price per 100 pounds				Ratio of beef steer price to price of		
	Choice slaughter steers Chicago 1/	Choice and Prime slaughter lambs Chicago 2/	Received by farmers for: Hogs	Received by farmers for: Milk delivered to plants and dealers	Lambs	Hogs	Milk
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars			
1922	9.23	13.23	8.40	2.11	69.8	109.9	437.4
1923	10.15	13.24	6.94	2.49	76.7	146.3	407.6
1924	10.00	13.98	7.34	2.22	71.5	136.2	450.5
1925	11.02	15.16	10.91	2.38	72.7	101.0	463.0
1926	9.87	13.76	11.79	2.38	71.7	83.7	414.7
1927	11.90	13.91	9.64	2.51	85.5	123.4	474.1
1928	14.40	14.94	8.54	2.52	96.4	168.6	571.4
1929	13.89	14.64	9.42	2.53	94.9	147.5	549.0
1930	11.45	9.91	8.84	2.21	115.5	129.5	518.1
1931	8.63	7.77	5.73	1.69	111.1	150.6	510.7
1932	7.23	6.11	3.34	1.28	118.3	216.5	564.8
1933	5.56	6.63	3.53	1.30	83.9	157.5	427.7
1934	6.94	7.89	4.14	1.55	88.0	167.6	447.7
1935	10.79	8.85	8.65	1.72	121.9	124.7	627.3
1936	8.82	9.86	9.37	1.88	89.5	94.1	469.1
1937	11.79	10.59	9.50	1.99	111.3	124.1	592.5
1938	9.14	8.39	7.74	1.73	108.9	118.1	528.3
1939	9.81	9.26	6.23	1.69	105.9	157.5	580.5
1940	10.48	9.65	5.39	1.82	108.6	194.4	575.8
1941	11.36	11.19	9.09	2.19	101.5	125.0	518.7
1942	13.90	13.81	13.00	2.58	100.7	106.9	538.8
1943	15.34	14.95	13.70	3.12	102.6	112.0	491.7
1944	15.73	15.22	13.10	3.21	103.4	120.1	490.0
1945	16.00	15.48	14.00	3.19	103.4	114.3	501.6
1946	19.32	18.65	17.50	3.99	103.6	110.4	484.2
1947	26.22	23.59	24.10	4.27	111.1	108.8	614.1
1948	30.96	25.96	23.10	4.88	119.3	134.0	634.4
1949	26.07	25.45	18.10	3.95	102.4	144.0	660.0
1950	29.68	27.30	18.00	3.89	108.7	164.9	763.0
1951	35.96	34.29	20.00	4.58	104.9	179.8	785.2

1/ Corn Belt beef steers sold out of first hands at Chicago. Called Good grade until 1951.
2/ Formerly called Good and Choice.

but pork output will be smaller and that of lamb will be only a little changed. If slaughter of cattle makes the substantial seasonal rise this fall that is expected, beef output will be up as much or more than pork will be down, and total meat production will exceed the same period of last year. A smaller increase in cattle slaughter would fail to make up the deficit in pork and total meat production would be below the second half of last year. In view of the sluggish trends in cattle slaughter so far, the prospect now is for little change in total meat production the rest of this year compared with last year.

Meat consumption per person in the first 6 months was above a year earlier. With this gain already attained, the total per person for the year seems rather certain to exceed the 137.7 pounds consumed in 1951. For the year as a whole the increase is estimated at about 2 pounds per person.

World Meat Production Up in 1951; Believed Record High

Meat production for 1951 in principal livestock countries except the Far East was believed to be at a record high mark, according to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.[1]

Particularly interesting is the similarity of trends in the United States and in all countries combined. In both the United States and the world as a whole, the increase in production was in pork, while production of beef and of lamb and mutton failed to gain because the increasing numbers of cattle and sheep that are being raised have largely been retained on farms. But in addition, drought has hindered production of cattle and beef in Argentina, Mexico and Australia.

The outlook appears favorable, it is said, for a continued high level of world meat production in 1952.

Livestock Numbers and Meat Supplies in Relation to Population, 1900-52

In the last few years of fast-growing population, strong demand, and higher prices for meat, much consideration has been given to the long-run adequacy of livestock numbers and the meat supply relative to population. It has often been shown that livestock numbers on farms have in past decades failed to keep up with the growth of population.

To provide a source of data on trends for the past 50 years, a summary table is presented as table 4. Numbers of cattle and sheep on farms each January 1, and of pigs saved each year, are related to the United States population of each year. It is clearly shown that cattle numbers have traced a declining ratio to population, and sheep numbers per person are now extremely low. The ratio of pigs saved to population has held up much better; in 1949-51 it was nearly as high as in the 1920's.

1/ A detailed report, Meat Production During 1951, is available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

Table 4.- Number of meat animals and production and consumption of meat relative to population, United States, 1900-52

Year	Population Jan.1 1/	Numbers of meat animals: Total: On farms Jan. 1: All cattle and calves	Total: On farms Jan. 1: All sheep and lambs	Total: Pigs saved during year	Per person: On farms Jan. 1: All cattle and calves	Per person: On farms Jan. 1: All sheep and lambs	Per person: Pigs saved during year 2/	Meat production 3/: Total: Beef	Total: Veal	Total: Lamb and mutton	Total: Pork	Total: All meat	Per person 2/: Beef	Per person 2/: Veal	Per person 2/: Lamb and mutton	Per person 2/: Pork	Per person 2/: All meat	Meat consumed per person 2/ 4/: Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork	All meat
	Million	Million head	Million head	Million head	Head	Head	Head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1900	75.5	59.7	48.1		.791	.637		5,628	397	493	6,329	12,847	74.0	5.2	6.5	83.1	168.8	67.1	5.2	6.5	71.9	150.7
1901	76.8	62.6	49.1		.815	.639		5,814	422	548	6,357	13,141	74.9	5.4	7.1	81.9	169.3	67.9	5.4	7.0	70.8	151.1
1902	78.4	64.4	49.2		.822	.628		5,649	476	564	5,936	12,625	71.3	6.0	7.1	75.0	159.4	65.0	6.0	7.1	66.7	144.8
1903	79.9	66.0	47.5		.826	.595		6,240	492	563	6,067	13,362	77.4	6.1	7.0	75.3	165.8	70.9	6.1	6.9	68.2	152.1
1904	81.4	66.4	45.5		.816	.558		6,176	491	538	6,387	13,592	75.1	6.0	6.6	77.7	165.4	69.6	6.0	6.5	70.6	152.7
1905	83.0	66.1	43.8		.797	.528		6,504	556	530	6,629	14,219	77.6	6.6	6.4	79.1	169.7	71.3	6.6	6.3	71.0	155.2
1906	84.6	65.0	45.5		.768	.538		6,537	598	543	6,793	14,471	76.5	7.0	6.4	79.5	169.4	71.3	7.0	6.3	71.0	155.6
1907	86.2	63.8	47.3		.740	.548		6,544	626	553	7,059	14,782	75.2	7.2	6.4	81.1	169.9	70.6	7.2	6.3	74.1	158.2
1908	87.9	62.0	48.2		.705	.548		6,662	637	559	7,535	15,393	75.1	7.2	6.3	84.9	173.5	72.1	7.2	6.3	77.7	163.3
1909	89.6	60.8	50.8		.678	.567		6,915	660	608	6,557	14,740	75.7	7.2	6.7	71.8	161.4	73.5	7.2	6.7	66.4	153.8
1910	92.2	59.0	50.2		.640	.545		6,647	667	597	6,087	13,998	71.3	7.2	6.4	65.3	150.2	69.8	7.1	6.4	61.8	145.1
1911	93.9	57.2	50.6		.609	.538		6,549	666	693	6,961	14,869	69.2	7.0	7.3	73.5	157.0	67.9	7.0	7.3	68.4	150.6
1912	95.4	55.7	47.9		.584	.502		6,234	662	735	6,822	14,453	64.9	6.9	7.6	71.0	150.4	64.0	6.9	7.6	66.2	144.7
1913	97.1	56.6	44.7		.583	.460		6,182	608	706	6,979	14,475	63.1	6.2	7.2	71.2	147.7	62.8	6.2	7.2	66.3	142.5
1914	99.0	59.5	43.1		.601	.435		6,017	569	693	6,824	14,103	60.2	5.7	7.0	68.3	141.2	61.5	5.7	7.1	64.6	138.9
1915	100.6	63.8	40.5		.635	.403		6,075	590	605	7,616	14,886	60.0	5.8	5.9	75.2	146.9	56.0	5.8	6.0	66.1	133.9
1916	102.1	67.4	40.0		.661	.392		6,460	655	585	8,207	15,907	62.8	6.4	5.7	79.8	154.7	58.4	6.4	5.8	68.4	139.0
1917	103.5	71.0	38.9		.686	.376		7,239	744	463	7,055	15,501	69.5	7.1	4.5	67.7	148.8	64.2	7.1	4.4	58.5	134.2
1918	104.8	73.0	39.7		.697	.378		7,726	760	506	8,349	17,341	73.3	7.2	4.8	79.2	164.5	68.0	7.2	4.7	60.6	140.5
1919	105.6	72.1	41.9		.683	.397		6,756	819	590	8,477	16,642	63.8	7.7	5.6	80.0	157.1	61.0	7.8	5.6	63.4	137.8
1920	106.5	70.4	40.7		.661	.383		6,306	842	538	7,648	15,334	58.8	7.8	5.0	71.3	142.9	58.6	7.9	5.4	63.1	135.0
1921	108.3	68.7	39.5		.634	.365		6,022	820	639	7,697	15,178	55.1	7.5	5.9	70.4	138.9	55.1	7.5	6.1	64.3	133.0
1922	110.1	68.8	36.9		.625	.335		6,588	852	553	8,145	16,138	59.4	7.7	5.0	73.4	145.5	58.6	7.7	5.1	65.3	136.7
1923	111.8	67.5	36.8		.604	.329		6,721	916	588	9,483	17,708	59.6	8.1	5.2	84.2	157.1	59.2	8.1	5.3	73.7	146.3
1924	113.8	66.0	37.1	74.1	.580	.326	.645	6,877	972	597	9,149	17,595	59.8	8.5	5.2	79.6	153.1	59.1	8.5	5.2	73.5	146.3
1925	115.8	63.4	38.5	70.3	.547	.333	.603	6,878	989	603	8,128	16,598	59.0	8.5	5.1	69.7	142.3	59.1	8.5	5.2	66.3	139.1
1926	117.4	60.6	40.4	75.4	.516	.344	.638	7,089	955	639	7,966	16,649	60.0	8.1	5.4	67.4	140.9	59.8	8.1	5.4	63.7	137.0
1927	119.0	58.2	42.4	81.2	.489	.356	.678	6,395	867	629	8,430	16,321	53.4	7.2	5.2	70.4	136.2	54.1	7.3	5.3	67.3	134.0
1928	120.6	57.3	45.3	78.7	.475	.375	.649	5,771	773	663	9,041	16,248	47.6	6.3	5.5	74.5	133.9	48.4	6.4	5.5	70.5	130.8
1929	121.9	58.9	48.4	76.1	.483	.397	.621	5,871	761	682	8,833	16,147	47.9	6.2	5.6	72.0	131.7	49.3	6.3	5.6	69.2	130.4
1930	123.1	61.0	51.6	74.1	.496	.419	.599	5,917	792	825	8,482	16,016	47.8	6.4	6.7	68.5	129.4	48.6	6.4	6.7	66.6	128.3
1931	124.3	63.0	53.2	83.2	.507	.428	.666	6,009	823	885	8,739	16,456	48.2	6.6	7.1	70.0	131.9	48.3	6.6	7.1	67.9	129.9
1932	125.2	65.8	53.9	82.5	.526	.431	.657	5,789	822	884	8,923	16,418	46.1	6.5	7.0	71.1	130.7	46.4	6.5	7.0	70.3	130.2
1933 5/	126.0	70.3	53.1	84.2	.558	.421	.667	6,440	891	852	9,234	17,417	51.0	7.1	6.7	73.1	137.9	51.2	7.1	6.7	70.3	135.3
1934 5/	126.8	74.4	53.5	56.8	.587	.422	.447	8,345	1,246	851	8,397	18,839	65.7	9.8	6.7	66.0	148.2	63.5	9.3	6.3	64.0	143.1
1935 5/	127.6	68.8	51.8	56.1	.540	.406	.439	6,608	1,023	877	5,919	14,427	51.6	8.0	6.9	46.2	112.7	52.9	8.5	7.2	48.1	116.7
1936 5/	128.5	67.8	51.1	65.7	.528	.398	.510	7,358	1,075	854	7,474	16,761	57.1	8.3	6.6	58.0	130.0	60.1	8.3	6.6	54.8	129.8
1937	129.3	66.1	50.8	62.5	.511	.393	.482	6,798	1,108	852	6,951	15,709	52.5	8.5	6.6	53.6	121.2	54.8	8.6	6.6	55.4	125.4
1938	130.2	65.2	51.1	71.9	.501	.392	.550	6,908	994	897	7,680	16,479	52.8	7.6	6.9	58.8	126.1	54.0	7.6	6.8	57.8	126.2
1939	131.2	66.0	51.3	87.0	.503	.391	.660	7,011	991	872	8,660	17,534	53.2	7.5	6.6	65.8	133.1	54.4	7.5	6.6	64.3	132.8
1940	132.3	68.3	52.1	79.9	.516	.394	.600	7,175	981	876	10,044	19,076	53.9	7.4	6.6	75.5	143.4	54.5	7.4	6.6	72.9	141.4
1941	133.6	71.8	53.9	85.0	.537	.404	.633	8,082	1,036	923	9,528	19,569	60.2	7.7	6.9	71.0	145.8	60.4	7.6	6.8	67.9	142.7
1942	135.0	76.0	56.2	104.9	.563	.416	.773	8,843	1,151	1,042	10,876	21,912	65.2	8.5	7.7	80.1	161.5	60.8	8.2	7.2	63.3	139.5
1943	136.7	81.2	55.2	121.8	.594	.403	.885	8,571	1,167	1,104	13,640	24,482	62.3	8.5	8.0	99.1	177.9	52.9	8.2	6.4	78.5	146.0
1944	138.5	85.3	50.8	86.7	.616	.367	.622	9,112	1,738	1,024	13,304	25,178	65.4	12.5	7.3	95.5	180.7	55.3	12.3	6.6	79.1	153.3
1945	140.1	85.6	46.5	86.8	.611	.332	.617	10,276	1,664	1,054	10,697	23,691	73.0	11.8	7.5	76.0	168.3	59.0	11.8	7.3	66.2	144.3
1946	141.5	82.2	42.4	82.7	.581	.299	.581	9,373	1,443	968	11,150	22,934	65.9	10.1	6.8	78.4	161.2	61.3	9.9	6.6	75.4	153.2
1947	143.7	80.6	37.5	83.3	.561	.261	.574	10,432	1,605	799	10,502	23,338	72.0	11.1	5.5	72.4	161.0	69.1	10.8	5.3	69.1	154.3
1948	146.3	77.2	34.3	83.8	.527	.235	.568	9,075	1,423	747	10,055	21,300	61.5	9.6	5.1	68.2	144.4	62.7	9.5	5.0	67.4	144.6
1949	148.8	76.8	30.9	93.2	.516	.208	.622	9,439	1,334	603	10,286	21,662	62.9	8.9	4.0	68.6	144.4	63.5	8.8	4.1	67.3	143.7
1950	151.4	78.0	29.8	97.3	.515	.197	.638	9,538	1,230	597	10,714	22,079	62.5	8.1	3.9	70.2	144.7	63.0	8.0	3.9	68.6	143.5
1951	153.9	82.0	30.6	102.2	.533	.199	.658	8,843	1,061	522	11,483	21,909	57.0	6.8	3.4	74.0	141.2	56.1	6.6	3.4	71.6	137.7
1952	156.7	88.1	31.7		.562	.202																

1/ Census estimate of total population, with adjustments, 1909 to date, for underenumeration of children.
2/ Per person of population July 1.
3/ Production from all slaughter, including farm.
4/ Beginning 1941 civilian consumption per person of civilian population.
5/ Includes production and consumption from Government emergency programs.

But numbers of livestock are not the best measure of capacity to supply consumer needs for meat. This is especially true for cattle and sheep numbers. Both cattle and sheep are sold at earlier ages now than formerly. In addition, more calves are saved per 100 head of cows in recent than in earlier years. The result is an increasing production of beef, lamb and mutton per animal on farms January 1.

Ratios of meat production to population reveal the performance of the livestock industry more accurately than do livestock numbers. Data are presented in center sections of table 4. And the final significance to consumers is indicated best by the supply of meat available for consumption, data on which are given in right-hand columns of the table.

Production of beef and of pork per person declined somewhat in early years of the century but have since been at a more stable level except for reductions due to the droughts of the 1930's. Per capita consumption has held up better than production for both meats because of shifts in foreign trade. At the first of this century large quantities of both meats were exported, but virtually all meat produced in this country is now consumed here. In fact, beef imports now exceed exports, although both are small in relation to domestic production.

Beef consumption per person declined until about 1930 and has since generally increased, but it remains below the high level of 1900-09. Pork consumption per person has been maintained better, with no prolonged up- or down-trend evident during this century. Production and consumption of veal has changed sharply within short spans of years and has shown a slight tendency to increase over the entire 1900-52 period. Production and consumption of lamb and mutton per person were low in the 1920's. They increased to a high point in the early 1940's, and decreased sharply in the late 1940's.

Production and consumption of all meat per person has shown about the same trend as beef because long-run changes have been more pronounced for beef than for other meats. The trends for all meat are a decline until the 1930's and a partial recovery since, with consumption per person in the 1940's averaging a little below 1900-09.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Edible Offals

Table 5 revises slightly and extends a table on production and distribution of edible offals that previously has been published in this *Situation*. The data on these products, which include liver, heart, head meat, tongue, tripe, plucks, sweetbreads, and others, embody considerable error. They nevertheless indicate that these meats, with consumption at about 10 pounds per person each year, are an important item in the food supply.

A more complete explanation of the sources and calculations of offal data may be found in this *Situation* for May 1949.

Table 5.- Edible offals: Supply and distribution, United States, by calendar years, 1934 to date

Year	Supply: Total production 1/	Supply: Beginning commercial stocks 2/	Supply: Imports	Supply: Total supply	Distribution: Ending stocks 2/	Distribution: Commercial exports and shipments	Domestic disappearance: Military	Domestic disappearance: Civilian	Domestic disappearance: Civilian per capita 3/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1934	1,298	65	4/	1,363	126	28	---	1,209	9.5
1935	994	126	1	1,121	74	17	---	1,030	8.0
1936	1,152	74	4/	1,226	132	18	---	1,076	8.3
1937	1,083	132	1	1,216	67	14	---	1,135	8.8
1938	1,130	67	4/	1,197	72	19	---	1,106	8.5
1939	1,200	72	1	1,273	95	19	---	1,159	8.8
1940	1,303	95	2	1,400	102	11	---	1,287	9.7
1941	1,338	102	4	1,444	105	8	---	1,331	10.0
1942	1,498	105	2	1,605	86	11	4/	1,508	11.4
1943	1,669	86	4/	1,755	137	22	2	1,594	12.3
1944	1,740	5/97	4/	1,837	37	68	2	1,730	13.4
1945	1,637	37	4/	1,674	41	3	3	1,627	12.5
1946	1,579	41	4/	1,620	56	1	4/	1,563	11.2
1947	1,615	56	4/	1,671	71	9	4/	1,591	11.1
1948	1,472	71	5	1,548	58	1	4/	1,489	10.2
1949	1,495	58	10	1,563	62	2	4/	1,499	10.1
1950	1,519	62	9	1,590	59	3	4/	1,528	10.1
1951	1,502	59	8	1,569	64	6	4/	1,499	9.9

1/ Production of offals as percentage of dressed weight of meat production, including farm: Beef 6.7, veal 10.7, lamb and mutton 5.1, pork excluding lard 6.7.
2/ Trimmings included prior to July 1, 1944; excluded beginning that date.
3/ Calculated from number of persons eating out of civilian supplies July 1 adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years of age.
4/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
5/ Adjusted by 40 million pounds as estimated allowance for trimmings, which were reported in stocks prior to July 1, 1944.

Revised Prices,
1951

In table 6 are presented revised prices received by farmers for meat animals by months in 1951. Also shown are revised data on the hog-corn price ratio.

Meat Production,
1944 to Date

Several separate changes have resulted in a new series on meat production statistics for 1944 to date, and for the corresponding estimates of meat consumption. Farm slaughter has been revised on the basis of the Census of 1950. Minor changes have been made in commercial production of pork in 1949-50 and of all meats in 1951. In addition, the distribution by seasons of meat produced each year from slaughter on farms has been recalculated to allow for changes caused by increasing numbers of cold-storage lockers and home freezers used by farmers. Because of the widespread use of refrigeration, farm slaughter of livestock is not so nearly confined to cold seasons as it once was.

Tables 7 to 11 bring together all the revisions in statistics for 1945 to date. New tables for 1945 to 1947 contain revisions of data published in Meat Supply and Distribution by Quarter-Years, United States, 1941-47 (BAE-PMA).

Table 6.- Price per 100 pounds received by farmers for meat animals by classes, index numbers of prices received for meat animals, and hog-corn price ratio, United States, by months 1951-52

Commodity and year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Weighted average
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Beef cattle													
1951	27.10	29.10	29.80	30.30	29.70	29.50	29.00	28.90	29.20	28.40	27.50	27.30	28.70
1952	27.20	27.60	27.60	27.80	27.90	26.70							
Veal calves													
1951	30.70	32.80	33.20	33.90	33.00	33.20	32.20	31.90	32.10	31.80	30.50	30.40	32.00
1952	31.50	31.90	31.40	31.10	31.20	30.70							
Hogs													
1951	20.00	21.90	21.20	20.60	20.40	20.90	20.50	20.90	19.80	20.20	18.10	17.60	20.00
1952	17.40	17.20	16.70	16.40	20.00	19.40							
Sheep													
1951	15.50	18.00	19.40	18.30	17.10	16.80	15.70	15.30	15.20	15.60	14.40	14.10	16.00
1952	13.40	13.30	13.10	13.60	12.90	11.60							
Lambs													
1951	30.10	33.40	35.20	34.30	32.50	31.70	30.20	29.80	29.70	29.70	29.00	28.60	31.00
1952	28.20	26.80	25.60	26.40	26.30	25.80							
Index numbers of prices received for meat animals Jan. 1910 - Dec. 1914 = 100													
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1951	391	425	428	428	418	422	414	416	411	410	387	379	411
1952	376	377	372	372	394	380							
Hog-Corn Ratio													
United States 1/													
1951	13.0	13.7	13.2	12.7	12.4	12.9	12.6	12.7	12.0	12.3	11.2	10.5	12.4
1952	10.4	10.4	10.1	9.8	11.8	11.2							
Chicago													
1951	12.0	12.5	12.4	11.9	12.0	12.9	12.8	12.4	11.6	11.5	10.2	9.4	11.6
1952	9.3	9.6	9.1	9.3	11.0								

1/ United States, based on prices received by farmers for all hogs.

Table 7 .- Meat production and consumption in the United States, 1899-1951 1/

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork (excluding lard)			All meats			Lard			Population
	Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption		Production	Consumption 2/		July 1 3/
		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil.
1899	5,522	5,029	67.2	387	387	5.2	487	486	6.5	6,310	5,371	71.8	12,706	11,273	150.7	1,679	954	12.8	74.8
1900	5,628	5,104	67.1	397	397	5.2	493	492	6.5	6,329	5,476	71.9	12,847	11,469	150.7	1,653	1,002	13.2	76.1
1901	5,814	5,266	67.9	422	422	5.4	548	548	7.0	6,357	5,493	70.8	13,141	11,729	151.1	1,650	997	12.8	77.6
1902	5,649	5,148	65.0	476	476	6.0	564	560	7.1	5,936	5,288	66.7	12,625	11,472	144.8	1,493	956	12.1	79.2
1903	6,240	5,711	70.9	492	492	6.1	563	560	6.9	6,067	5,498	68.2	13,362	12,261	152.1	1,529	952	11.8	80.6
1904	6,176	5,719	69.6	491	491	6.0	538	537	6.5	6,387	5,803	70.6	13,592	12,550	152.7	1,638	1,031	12.5	82.2
1905	6,504	5,973	71.3	556	556	6.6	530	529	6.3	6,629	5,945	71.0	14,219	13,003	155.2	1,742	991	11.8	83.8
1906	6,537	6,087	71.3	598	598	7.0	543	542	6.3	6,793	6,065	71.0	14,471	13,292	155.6	1,735	1,002	11.7	85.4
1907	6,544	6,141	70.6	626	626	7.2	553	551	6.3	7,059	6,443	74.1	14,782	13,761	158.2	1,790	1,146	13.2	87.0
1908	6,662	6,393	72.1	637	637	7.2	559	557	6.3	7,535	6,898	77.7	15,393	14,485	163.3	1,911	1,277	14.4	88.7
1909	6,915	6,713	73.5	660	660	7.2	608	606	6.7	6,557	6,065	66.4	14,740	14,044	153.8	1,628	1,127	12.3	91.3
1910	6,647	6,508	69.8	667	667	7.1	597	596	6.4	6,087	5,756	61.8	13,998	13,527	145.1	1,553	1,156	12.4	93.2
1911	6,549	6,426	67.9	666	666	7.0	693	690	7.3	6,961	6,482	68.4	14,869	14,264	150.6	1,747	1,138	12.0	94.7
1912	6,234	6,153	64.0	662	662	6.9	735	729	7.6	6,822	6,357	66.2	14,453	13,901	144.7	1,658	1,102	11.5	96.1
1913	6,182	6,157	62.8	608	609	6.2	706	701	7.2	6,979	6,501	66.3	14,475	13,968	142.5	1,653	1,073	10.9	98.0
1914	6,017	6,144	61.5	569	572	5.7	693	708	7.1	6,824	6,453	64.6	14,103	13,877	138.9	1,554	1,090	10.9	99.9
1915	6,075	5,668	56.0	590	591	5.8	605	612	6.0	7,616	6,690	66.1	14,886	13,561	133.9	1,689	1,198	11.8	101.3
1916	6,460	6,003	58.4	655	656	6.4	585	595	5.8	8,207	7,037	68.4	15,907	14,291	139.0	1,706	1,228	11.9	102.8
1917	7,239	6,687	64.2	744	745	7.1	463	463	4.4	7,055	6,093	58.5	15,501	13,988	134.2	1,451	1,091	10.5	104.2
1918	7,726	7,167	68.0	760	761	7.2	506	499	4.7	8,349	6,384	60.6	17,341	14,811	140.5	1,899	1,291	12.2	105.4
1919	6,756	6,462	61.0	819	824	7.8	590	598	5.6	8,477	6,712	63.4	16,642	14,596	137.8	1,920	1,174	11.1	105.9
1920	6,306	6,293	58.6	842	852	7.9	538	578	5.4	7,648	6,766	63.1	15,334	14,489	135.0	1,958	1,319	12.3	107.3
1921	6,022	6,024	55.1	820	824	7.5	639	662	6.1	7,697	7,029	64.3	15,178	14,539	133.0	2,108	1,217	11.1	109.3
1922	6,588	6,503	58.6	852	858	7.7	553	565	5.1	8,145	7,236	65.3	16,138	15,162	136.7	2,302	1,503	13.6	110.9
1923	6,721	6,671	59.2	916	919	8.1	588	592	5.3	9,483	8,310	73.7	17,708	16,492	146.3	2,718	1,643	14.6	112.7
1924	6,877	6,786	59.1	972	977	8.5	597	596	5.2	9,149	8,451	73.5	17,595	16,810	146.3	2,660	1,663	14.5	114.9
1925	6,878	6,888	59.1	989	993	8.5	603	605	5.2	8,128	7,734	66.3	16,598	16,220	139.1	2,153	1,453	12.5	116.6
1926	7,089	7,074	59.8	955	959	8.1	639	637	5.4	7,966	7,529	63.7	16,649	16,199	137.0	2,206	1,465	12.4	118.2
1927	6,395	6,484	54.1	867	875	7.3	629	631	5.3	8,430	8,058	67.3	16,321	16,048	134.0	2,263	1,541	12.9	119.8
1928	5,771	5,872	48.4	773	781	6.4	663	662	5.5	9,041	8,545	70.5	16,248	15,860	130.8	2,458	1,626	13.4	121.3
1929	5,871	6,048	49.3	761	766	6.3	682	686	5.6	8,833	8,484	69.2	16,147	15,984	130.4	2,461	1,598	13.0	122.6
1930	5,917	6,021	48.6	792	794	6.4	825	824	6.7	8,482	8,246	66.6	16,016	15,885	128.3	2,227	1,584	12.8	123.8
1931	6,009	6,025	48.3	823	824	6.6	885	886	7.1	8,739	8,477	67.9	16,456	16,212	129.9	2,307	1,706	13.7	124.8
1932	5,789	5,830	46.4	822	822	6.5	884	882	7.0	8,923	8,825	70.3	16,418	16,359	130.2	2,380	1,814	14.4	125.6
1933 4/	6,440	6,469	51.2	891	891	7.1	852	849	6.7	9,234	8,885	70.3	17,417	17,094	135.3	2,475	1,772	14.0	126.3
1934 4/	8,345	8,066	63.5	1,246	1,182	9.3	851	798	6.3	8,397	8,141	64.0	18,839	18,187	143.1	2,091	1,648	13.0	127.1
1935 4/	6,608	6,770	52.9	1,023	1,087	8.5	877	923	7.2	5,919	6,155	48.1	14,427	14,935	116.7	1,276	1,226	9.6	128.0
1936 4/	7,358	7,742	60.1	1,075	1,075	8.3	854	849	6.6	7,474	7,061	54.8	16,761	16,727	129.8	1,679	1,449	11.2	128.9
1937	6,798	7,107	54.8	1,108	1,108	8.6	852	857	6.6	6,951	7,185	55.4	15,709	16,257	125.4	1,431	1,361	10.5	129.6
1938	6,908	7,058	54.0	994	994	7.6	897	894	6.8	7,680	7,554	57.8	16,479	16,500	126.2	1,728	1,440	11.0	130.7
1939	7,011	7,159	54.4	991	991	7.5	872	869	6.6	8,660	8,474	64.3	17,534	17,493	132.8	2,037	1,671	12.7	131.7
1940	7,175	7,257	54.5	981	981	7.4	876	873	6.6	10,044	9,701	72.9	19,076	18,812	141.4	2,288	1,924	14.5	133.0
1941	8,082	8,021	60.4	1,036	1,005	7.6	923	901	6.8	9,528	9,007	67.9	19,569	18,934	142.7	2,228	1,879	14.2	132.7
1942	8,843	8,049	60.8	1,151	1,084	8.2	1,042	950	7.2	10,876	8,368	63.3	21,912	18,451	139.5	2,401	1,759	13.3	132.3
1943	8,571	6,860	52.9	1,167	1,059	8.2	1,104	830	6.4	13,640	10,172	78.5	24,482	18,921	146.0	2,865	1,820	14.0	129.6
1944	9,112	7,146	55.3	1,738	1,594	12.3	1,024	857	6.6	13,304	10,230	79.1	25,178	19,827	153.3	3,054	1,824	13.1	129.3
1945	10,276	7,665	59.0	1,664	1,536	11.8	1,054	943	7.3	10,697	8,598	66.2	23,691	18,742	144.3	2,066	1,622	11.5	129.9
1946	9,373	8,533	61.3	1,443	1,382	9.9	968	923	6.6	11,150	10,506	75.4	22,934	21,344	153.2	2,136	1,662	11.7	139.3
1947	10,432	9,916	69.1	1,605	1,545	10.8	799	762	5.3	10,502	9,919	69.1	23,338	22,142	154.3	2,402	1,904	13.1	143.5
1948	9,075	9,153	62.7	1,423	1,384	9.5	747	733	5.0	10,055	9,840	67.4	21,300	21,110	144.6	2,321	1,972	13.4	146.0
1949	9,439	9,420	63.5	1,334	1,311	8.8	603	606	4.1	10,286	9,993	67.3	21,662	21,330	143.7	2,534	1,888	12.6	148.4
1950	9,538	9,517	63.0	1,230	1,206	8.0	597	596	3.9	10,714	10,361	68.6	22,079	21,680	143.5	2,631	2,089	13.7	151.1
1951 5/	8,843	8,523	56.1	1,061	1,007	6.6	522	517	3.4	11,483	10,865	71.6	21,909	20,912	137.7	2,864	2,113	13.6	151.9

1/ Beginning 1940 data exclude meat produced in Hawaii and Virgin Islands. Consumption beginning 1941 is civilian only. Units are carcass weight equivalent; exclude edible offals.
2/ Computed from unrounded numbers. Includes lard entering into manufactured products.
3/ Beginning 1909 population is adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 years.
4/ Includes production and consumption for Government emergency programs.
5/ Preliminary.

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Table 8 .- Livestock slaughtered and meat and lard produced, by class of slaughter, United States, 1938 to date 1/

Year	Livestock slaughter: Commercial: Federally inspected	Commercial: Other whole-sale and retail	Commercial: Total	Farm	Total	Meat production: Commercial: Federally inspected	Commercial: Other whole-sale and retail	Commercial: Total	Farm	Total
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
	Cattle					Beef				
1938	9,776	4,477	14,253	569	14,822	4,798	1,887	6,685	223	6,908
1939	9,446	4,604	14,050	571	14,621	4,803	1,983	6,786	225	7,011
1940	9,743	4,644	14,387	571	14,958	4,964	1,984	6,948	227	7,175
1941	10,932	4,916	15,848	571	16,419	5,732	2,126	7,858	224	8,082
1942	12,340	5,047	17,387	646	18,033	6,343	2,249	8,592	251	8,843
1943	11,721	5,416	17,137	708	17,845	5,966	2,340	8,306	265	8,571
1944	13,955	5,035	18,990	854	19,844	6,652	2,149	8,801	311	9,112
1945	14,531	6,244	20,775	919	21,694	7,236	2,700	9,936	340	10,276
1946	11,402	7,479	18,881	943	19,824	5,661	3,349	9,010	363	9,373
1947	15,524	6,009	21,533	871	22,404	7,535	2,561	10,096	336	10,432
1948	12,994	5,392	18,366	791	19,177	6,433	2,333	8,766	309	9,075
1949	13,222	4,791	18,013	752	18,765	6,998	2,144	9,142	297	9,439
1950	13,103	4,798	17,901	723	18,624	7,051	2,197	9,248	290	9,538
1951	11,879	4,497	16,376	2/724	17,100	6,431	2,118	8,549	2/294	8,843
	Calves					Veal				
1938	5,492	3,089	8,581	725	9,306	581	332	913	81	994
1939	5,264	3,172	8,436	755	9,191	559	348	907	84	991
1940	5,358	3,003	8,361	728	9,089	568	328	896	85	981
1941	5,461	3,107	8,568	684	9,252	599	353	952	84	1,036
1942	5,760	3,317	9,077	641	9,718	667	399	1,066	85	1,151
1943	5,209	4,111	9,320	620	9,940	597	481	1,078	89	1,167
1944	7,769	5,749	13,518	724	14,242	926	703	1,629	109	1,738
1945	7,020	5,884	12,904	753	13,657	823	729	1,552	112	1,664
1946	5,841	5,569	11,410	766	12,176	642	687	1,329	114	1,443
1947	7,933	5,080	13,013	713	13,726	904	589	1,493	112	1,605
1948	6,907	4,860	11,767	611	12,378	791	532	1,323	100	1,423
1949	6,449	4,379	10,828	570	11,398	746	494	1,240	94	1,334
1950	5,850	4,123	9,973	531	10,504	667	470	1,137	93	1,230
1951	4,985	3,433	8,418	2/495	8,913	583	389	972	2/ 89	1,061
	Sheep and lambs					Lamb and mutton				
1938	18,060	3,753	21,813	610	22,423	720	151	871	26	897
1939	17,241	3,776	21,017	597	21,614	694	152	846	26	872
1940	17,349	3,651	21,000	571	21,571	702	150	852	24	876
1941	18,122	3,605	21,727	582	22,309	749	150	899	24	923
1942	21,624	3,383	25,007	578	25,585	879	139	1,018	24	1,042
1943	23,363	3,134	26,497	576	27,073	958	122	1,080	24	1,104
1944	21,875	2,918	24,793	562	25,355	887	114	1,001	23	1,024
1945	21,218	2,850	24,068	571	24,639	913	117	1,030	24	1,054
1946	19,884	2,350	22,234	554	22,788	850	96	946	22	968
1947	16,667	1,540	18,207	499	18,706	717	62	779	20	799
1948	15,343	1,554	16,897	474	17,371	665	63	728	19	747
1949	12,136	1,240	13,376	404	13,780	536	51	587	16	603
1950	11,739	1,113	12,852	392	13,244	534	47	581	16	597
1951	10,056	1,019	11,075	2/343	11,418	465	43	508	2/ 14	522
	Hogs					Pork excluding lard				
1938	36,186	9,416	45,602	13,325	58,927	4,884	1,111	5,995	1,685	7,680
1939	41,368	11,213	52,581	13,980	66,561	5,552	1,337	6,889	1,771	8,660
1940	50,398	13,057	63,455	14,155	77,610	6,614	1,632	8,246	1,798	10,044
1941	46,520	12,088	58,608	12,789	71,397	6,345	1,559	7,904	1,624	9,528
1942	53,897	12,117	66,014	12,533	78,547	7,562	1,672	9,234	1,642	10,876
1943	63,431	17,779	81,210	14,016	95,226	9,308	2,454	11,762	1,878	13,640
1944	69,017	15,500	84,517	13,551	98,068	9,456	2,046	11,502	1,802	13,304
1945	40,960	17,300	58,260	13,631	71,891	6,387	2,456	8,843	1,854	10,697
1946	44,394	18,000	62,394	13,721	76,115	6,642	2,592	9,234	1,916	11,150
1947	49,116	12,813	61,929	12,072	74,001	7,080	1,731	8,811	1,691	10,502
1948	47,615	12,054	59,669	11,200	70,869	6,832	1,654	8,486	1,569	10,055
1949	53,032	11,729	64,761	10,236	74,997	7,352	1,523	8,875	1,411	10,286
1950	56,964	12,579	69,543	9,720	79,263	7,788	1,609	9,397	1,317	10,714
1951	62,054	14,007	76,061	2/9,520	85,581	8,407	1,783	10,190	2/1,293	11,483
	Lard production 3/					All meat excluding lard				
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds					
1938	1,034				1,728	10,983	3,481	14,464	2,015	16,479
1939	1,272				2,037	11,608	3,820	15,428	2,106	17,534
1940	1,527				2,288	12,848	4,094	16,942	2,134	19,076
1941	1,526				2,228	13,425	4,188	17,613	1,956	19,569
1942	1,724				2,401	15,451	4,459	19,910	2,002	21,912
1943	2,080				2,865	16,829	5,397	22,226	2,256	24,482
1944	2,367	279	2,646	408	3,054	17,921	5,012	22,933	2,245	25,178
1945	1,311	335	1,646	420	2,066	15,359	6,002	21,361	2,330	23,691
1946	1,344	353	1,697	439	2,136	13,795	6,724	20,519	2,415	22,934
1947	1,722	277	1,899	403	2,402	16,236	4,943	21,179	2,159	23,338
1948	1,680	252	1,932	389	2,321	14,721	4,582	19,303	1,997	21,300
1949	1,923	270	2,193	341	2,534	15,632	4,212	19,844	1,818	21,662
1950	2,009	309	2,318	313	2,631	16,040	4,323	20,363	1,716	22,079
1951	2,225	342	2,567	2/297	2,864	15,886	4,333	20,219	2/1,690	21,909

1/ Beginning 1940, excludes slaughter and meat production under Federal inspection in Hawaii and the Virgin Islands.
2/ Preliminary estimate. 3/ Including rendered pork fat.

Table 9.- Hog slaughter and production of pork and all meat, by months 1949-50, and all livestock slaughter and meat production, by months 1951

Month	Hogs 1949: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Hogs 1949: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs 1949: Slaughter: Total commercial	Hogs 1949: Pork production excluding lard: Federally inspected	Hogs 1949: Pork production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs 1949: Pork production excluding lard: Total commercial	All meat production excluding lard, 1949: Federally inspected	All meat production excluding lard, 1949: Other wholesale and retail	All meat production excluding lard, 1949: Total commercial	Hogs 1950: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Hogs 1950: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs 1950: Slaughter: Total commercial	Hogs 1950: Pork production excluding lard: Federally inspected	Hogs 1950: Pork production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs 1950: Pork production excluding lard: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Jan.	5,377	1,150	6,527	762	153	915	1,467	378	1,845	5,844	1,264	7,108	804	161	965
Feb.	4,079	1,054	5,133	563	138	701	1,194	337	1,531	4,191	1,119	5,310	559	140	699
Mar.	4,315	1,112	5,427	594	143	737	1,301	375	1,676	5,020	1,172	6,192	661	146	807
Apr.	3,894	930	4,824	528	119	647	1,166	327	1,493	4,316	1,023	5,339	574	128	702
May	3,721	854	4,575	518	112	630	1,176	331	1,507	4,339	981	5,320	593	123	716
June	3,745	760	4,505	557	100	657	1,239	328	1,567	4,154	881	5,035	605	113	718
July	3,165	671	3,836	495	89	584	1,174	301	1,475	3,314	778	4,092	515	102	617
Aug.	3,417	809	4,226	500	105	605	1,264	353	1,617	3,626	880	4,506	519	114	633
Sept.	3,879	921	4,800	518	119	637	1,268	366	1,634	4,137	929	5,066	547	120	667
Oct.	4,959	1,008	5,967	634	130	764	1,345	367	1,712	5,102	1,078	6,180	666	140	806
Nov.	6,003	1,190	7,193	802	155	957	1,491	388	1,879	6,144	1,198	7,342	821	157	978
Dec.	6,478	1,270	7,748	881	160	1,041	1,547	361	1,908	6,777	1,276	8,053	924	165	1,089
Year	53,032	11,729	64,761	7,352	1,523	8,875	15,632	4,212	19,844	56,964	12,579	69,543	7,788	1,609	9,397

Month	All meat production excluding lard, 1950: Federally inspected	All meat production excluding lard, 1950: Other wholesale and retail	All meat production excluding lard, 1950: Total commercial	Cattle, 1951: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Cattle, 1951: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle, 1951: Slaughter: Total commercial	Cattle, 1951: Beef production: Federally inspected	Cattle, 1951: Beef production: Other wholesale and retail	Cattle, 1951: Beef production: Total commercial	Calves, 1951: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Calves, 1951: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Calves, 1951: Slaughter: Total commercial	Calves, 1951: Veal production: Federally inspected	Calves, 1951: Veal production: Other wholesale and retail	Calves, 1951: Veal production: Total commercial
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Jan.	1,497	390	1,887	1,160	420	1,580	642	200	842	433	327	760	45	36	81
Feb.	1,156	345	1,501	887	334	1,221	490	160	650	375	279	654	37	29	66
Mar.	1,352	375	1,727	965	337	1,302	534	162	696	447	312	759	42	31	73
Apr.	1,190	337	1,527	894	333	1,227	499	159	658	406	271	677	39	28	67
May	1,275	355	1,630	986	342	1,328	552	164	716	414	259	673	43	28	71
June	1,277	339	1,616	787	324	1,111	435	156	591	406	241	647	49	29	78
July	1,182	332	1,514	920	367	1,287	503	173	676	408	257	665	54	32	86
Aug.	1,264	358	1,622	1,064	443	1,507	558	209	767	422	304	726	59	39	98
Sept.	1,299	358	1,657	956	416	1,372	502	195	697	373	293	666	51	36	87
Oct.	1,399	377	1,776	1,140	461	1,601	581	208	789	500	336	836	68	38	106
Nov.	1,533	384	1,917	1,122	393	1,515	588	180	768	457	296	753	57	34	91
Dec.	1,616	373	1,989	998	327	1,325	547	152	699	344	258	602	39	29	68
Year	16,040	4,323	20,363	11,879	4,497	16,376	6,431	2,118	8,549	4,985	3,433	8,418	583	389	972

Month	Sheep and lambs, 1951: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs, 1951: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Sheep and lambs, 1951: Slaughter: Total commercial	Sheep and lambs, 1951: Lamb and mutton production: Federally inspected	Sheep and lambs, 1951: Lamb and mutton production: Other wholesale and retail	Sheep and lambs, 1951: Lamb and mutton production: Total commercial	Hogs, 1951: Slaughter: Federally inspected	Hogs, 1951: Slaughter: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs, 1951: Slaughter: Total commercial	Hogs, 1951: Pork production excluding lard: Federally inspected	Hogs, 1951: Pork production excluding lard: Other wholesale and retail	Hogs, 1951: Pork production excluding lard: Total commercial	All meat production excluding lard, 1951: Federally inspected	All meat production excluding lard, 1951: Other wholesale and retail	All meat production excluding lard, 1951: Total commercial
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Jan.	1,058	79	1,137	50	4	54	6,584	1,463	8,047	896	189	1,085	1,633	429	2,062
Feb.	740	53	793	36	2	38	4,159	1,206	5,365	571	149	720	1,134	340	1,474
Mar.	738	62	800	37	2	39	5,117	1,210	6,327	684	153	837	1,297	348	1,645
Apr.	657	68	725	33	3	36	4,989	1,122	6,111	672	141	813	1,243	331	1,574
May	657	67	724	31	3	34	4,952	1,050	6,002	665	133	798	1,291	328	1,619
June	811	79	890	36	3	39	4,700	958	5,658	673	125	798	1,193	313	1,506
July	863	88	951	38	4	42	3,826	844	4,670	577	109	686	1,172	318	1,490
Aug.	889	117	1,006	39	5	44	4,236	1,082	5,318	615	138	753	1,271	391	1,662
Sept.	827	116	943	37	4	41	4,398	1,075	5,473	579	136	715	1,169	371	1,540
Oct.	1,084	124	1,208	47	6	53	5,650	1,299	6,949	718	167	885	1,414	419	1,833
Nov.	922	92	1,014	43	4	47	6,531	1,325	7,856	851	172	1,023	1,539	390	1,929
Dec.	810	74	884	38	3	41	6,912	1,373	8,285	906	171	1,077	1,530	355	1,885
Year	10,056	1,019	11,075	465	43	508	62,054	14,007	76,061	8,407	1,783	10,190	15,886	4,333	20,219

Revises table A-8 of January-February 1952 issue.

Table 10.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-years, 1945 to date

Period	Federally inspected: Supply: Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Distribution: U.S.D.A. purchases	Armed forces	Commercial exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Civilian consumption	Civilian consumption from non-inspected slaughter 1/	Total civilian consumption: Total	Per person
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1945												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	89	1,841	31	1,961	37	712	7	2/ 215	990	740	1,730	13.4
Apr.-June	2/ 215	1,633	33	1,881	26	745	6	2/3/ 320	784	671	1,455	11.2
July-Sept.	2/3/ 320	1,831	38	2,189	70	428	8	2/3/ 307	1,376	718	2,094	16.1
Oct.-Dec.	2/3/ 307	1,931	25	2,263	326	191	13	2/3/ 258	1,475	911	2,386	17.9
Year	89	7,236	127	7,452	459	2,076	34	258	4,625	3,040	7,665	4/59.0
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	8	156	5/	164	2	27	1	4	130	196	326	2.5
Apr.-June	4	148	1	153	-	35	5/	6	112	188	300	2.3
July-Sept.	6	231	5/	237	-	35	1	6	195	216	411	3.2
Oct.-Dec.	6	288	5/	294	10	15	1	10	258	241	499	3.8
Year	8	823	1	832	12	112	3	10	695	841	1,536	4/ 11.8
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	20	238	-	258	9	37	1	8	203	38	241	1.9
Apr.-June	8	221	-	229	5/	38	1	6	184	35	219	1.7
July-Sept.	6	210	-	216	-	11	1	8	196	33	229	1.8
Oct.-Dec.	8	244	-	252	9	7	1	16	219	35	254	1.9
Year	20	913	-	933	18	93	4	16	802	141	943	4/ 7.3
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	316	1,766	5/	2,082	363	417	7	2/ 334	961	1,323	2,284	17.6
Apr.-June	2/ 334	1,546	-	1,880	192	439	7	2/3/ 394	848	915	1,763	13.6
July-Sept.	2/3/ 394	1,195	1	1,590	60	340	8	2/3/ 286	896	759	1,655	12.7
Oct.-Dec.	2/3/ 286	1,880	1	2,167	116	91	12	2/3/ 365	1,583	1,313	2,896	21.8
Year	316	6,387	2	6,705	731	1,287	34	2/3/ 365	4,288	4,310	8,598	4/ 66.2
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	433	4,001	31	4,465	411	1,193	16	2/ 561	2,284	2,297	4,581	35.4
Apr.-June	2/ 561	3,548	34	4,143	218	1,257	14	2/3/ 726	1,928	1,809	3,737	28.8
July-Sept.	2/3/ 726	3,467	39	4,232	130	814	18	2/3/ 607	2,663	1,726	4,389	33.7
Oct.-Dec.	2/3/ 607	4,343	26	4,976	461	304	27	2/3/ 649	3,535	2,500	6,035	45.4
Year	433	15,359	130	15,922	1,220	3,568	75	2/3/ 649	10,410	8,332	18,742	4/144.3
1946												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	2/3/ 258	1,535	2	1,795	166	268	12	2/3/ 185	1,164	1,057	2,221	16.2
Apr.-June	2/3/ 185	1,012	5	1,202	181	73	10	2/3/ 72	866	877	1,743	12.6
July-Sept.	2/3/ 72	1,366	5	1,443	41	79	6	2/3/ 67	1,250	878	2,128	15.2
Oct.-Dec.	2/3/ 67	1,748	7	1,822	6/ -1	124	7	2/3/ 151	1,541	900	2,441	17.3
Year	2/3/ 258	5,661	19	5,938	387	544	35	2/3/ 151	4,821	3,712	8,533	61.3
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	10	118	5/	128	4	6	1	5	112	188	300	2.2
Apr.-June	5	105	5/	110	4	5	1	3	97	173	270	1.9
July-Sept.	3	182	5/	185	5/	16	5/	5	164	215	379	2.7
Oct.-Dec.	5	237	1	243	5/	22	1	12	208	225	433	3.1
Year	10	642	1	653	8	49	3	12	581	801	1,382	9.9
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	16	257	-	273	6	11	1	14	241	30	271	2.0
Apr.-June	14	198	-	212	5	3	1	8	195	28	223	1.6
July-Sept.	8	188	-	196	5/	4	1	8	183	28	211	1.5
Oct.-Dec.	8	207	-	215	5/	12	1	16	186	32	218	1.5
Year	16	850	-	866	11	30	4	16	805	118	923	6.6
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	2/3/ 365	1,990	5/	2,355	67	110	25	2/3/ 408	1,745	1,436	3,181	23.2
Apr.-June	2/3/ 408	1,539	5/	1,947	261	92	24	2/3/ 277	1,293	1,094	2,387	17.2
July-Sept.	2/3/ 277	1,165	5/	1,442	43	21	14	2/3/ 96	1,268	752	2,020	14.4
Oct.-Dec.	2/3/ 96	1,948	5/	2,044	6/ -4	72	12	2/3/ 272	1,692	1,226	2,918	20.6
Year	2/3/ 365	6,642	5/	7,007	367	295	75	2/3/ 272	5,998	4,508	10,506	75.4
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	2/3/ 649	3,900	2	4,551	243	395	39	2/3/ 612	3,262	2,711	5,973	43.6
Apr.-June	2/3/ 612	2,854	5	3,471	451	173	36	2/3/ 360	2,451	2,172	4,623	33.3
July-Sept.	2/3/ 360	2,901	5	3,266	84	120	21	2/3/ 176	2,865	1,873	4,738	33.8
Oct.-Dec.	2/3/ 176	4,140	8	4,324	6/ -5	230	21	2/3/ 451	3,627	2,383	6,010	42.5
Year	2/3/ 649	13,795	20	14,464	773	918	117	2/3/ 451	12,205	9,139	21,344	153.2
1947												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	3/ 151	1,896	5	2,052	-	168	12	3/ 155	1,717	749	2,466	17.3
Apr.-June	3/ 155	1,859	1	2,015	-	58	80	3/ 80	1,797	703	2,500	17.5
July-Sept.	3/ 80	1,846	17	1,943	-	52	62	3/ 76	1,753	701	2,454	17.0
Oct.-Dec.	3/ 76	1,934	41	2,051	-	108	22	3/ 169	1,752	744	2,496	17.3
Year	3/ 151	7,535	64	7,750	-	386	176	3/ 169	7,019	2,897	9,916	69.1
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	12	175	5/	187	-	5	1	9	172	162	334	2.4
Apr.-June	9	196	5/	205	-	8	8	8	181	166	347	2.4
July-Sept.	8	257	5/	265	-	9	6	7	243	185	428	3.0
Oct.-Dec.	7	276	5/	283	-	12	2	21	248	188	436	3.0
Year	12	904	5/	916	-	34	17	21	844	701	1,545	10.8
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	16	183	5/	199	-	6	2	12	179	21	200	1.4
Apr.-June	12	176	5/	188	-	3	2	8	175	17	192	1.3
July-Sept.	8	165	5/	173	-	2	5	6	160	21	181	1.3
Oct.-Dec.	6	193	5/	199	-	11	3	19	166	23	189	1.3
Year	16	717	5/	733	-	22	12	19	680	82	762	5.3

For footnotes see last page of table.

- Continued

Table 10.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-years, 1945 to date - Continued

Period	Federally inspected									Civilian consumption from non-inspected slaughter 1/	Total civilian consumption	
	Supply				Distribution							
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	U.S.D.A. purchases	Armed forces	Commercial exports and shipments	Ending stocks	Civilian consumption		Total	Per person
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1947												
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	3/ 272	1,867	5/	2,139	5/	95	17	3/ 384	1,643	1,053	2,696	18.9
Apr.-June	3/ 384	1,639	5/	2,023	-	49	40	3/ 338	1,596	771	2,367	16.6
July-Sept.	3/ 338	1,407	5/	1,745	-	24	30	3/ 191	1,500	590	2,090	14.5
Oct.-Dec.	3/ 191	2,167	5/	2,358	-	62	20	3/ 518	1,758	1,008	2,766	19.1
Year	3/ 272	7,080	5/	7,352	5/	230	107	3/ 518	6,497	3,422	9,919	69.1
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	3/ 451	4,121	5	4,577	5/	274	32	3/ 560	3,711	1,985	5,696	40.0
Apr.-June	3/ 560	3,870	1	4,431	-	118	130	3/ 434	3,749	1,657	5,406	37.8
July-Sept.	3/ 434	3,675	17	4,126	-	87	103	3/ 280	3,656	1,497	5,153	35.8
Oct.-Dec.	3/ 280	4,570	41	4,891	-	193	47	3/ 727	3,924	1,963	5,887	40.7
Year	3/ 451	16,236	64	16,751	5/	672	312	3/ 727	15,040	7,102	22,142	154.3
1948												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	169	1,643	42	1,854		52	12	133	1,657	691	2,348	16.2
Apr.-June	133	1,470	58	1,661		40	10	83	1,528	691	2,219	15.2
July-Sept.	83	1,599	115	1,797		53	13	74	1,657	614	2,271	15.5
Oct.-Dec.	74	1,721	126	1,921		94	9	149	1,669	646	2,315	15.8
Year	169	6,433	341	6,943		239	44	149	6,511	2,642	9,153	62.7
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	21	160	5/	181		4	1	10	166	158	324	2.2
Apr.-June	10	176	5/	186		9	1	6	170	161	331	2.3
July-Sept.	6	228	2	236		12	1	7	216	157	373	2.6
Oct.-Dec.	7	227	3	237		15	1	21	200	156	356	2.4
Year	21	791	5	817		40	4	21	752	632	1,384	9.5
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	19	171	0	190		2	2	14	172	21	193	1.3
Apr.-June	14	141	0	155		1	2	8	144	19	163	1.1
July-Sept.	8	165	1	174		0	1	10	163	21	184	1.3
Oct.-Dec.	10	188	2	200		2	5/	26	172	21	193	1.3
Year	19	665	3	687		5	5	26	651	82	733	5.0
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	518	1,783	5/	2,301		31	25	646	1,599	1,002	2,601	17.9
Apr.-June	646	1,639	5/	2,285		36	21	582	1,646	793	2,439	16.8
July-Sept.	582	1,248	5/	1,830		50	17	235	1,528	540	2,068	14.1
Oct.-Dec.	235	2,162	1	2,398		63	22	469	1,844	888	2,732	18.6
Year	518	6,832	1	7,351		180	85	469	6,617	3,223	9,840	67.4
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	727	3,757	42	4,526		89	40	803	3,594	1,872	5,466	37.6
Apr.-June	803	3,426	58	4,287		86	34	679	3,488	1,664	5,152	35.4
July-Sept.	679	3,240	118	4,037		115	32	326	3,564	1,332	4,896	33.5
Oct.-Dec.	326	4,298	132	4,756		174	32	665	3,885	1,711	5,596	38.1
Year	727	14,721	350	15,798		464	138	665	14,531	6,579	21,110	144.5
1949												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	149	1,739	52	1,940		77	5	127	1,731	616	2,347	15.9
Apr.-June	127	1,709	39	1,875		49	7	74	1,745	598	2,343	15.9
July-Sept.	74	1,843	78	1,995		68	8	63	1,856	610	2,466	16.6
Oct.-Dec.	63	1,707	59	1,829		54	7	121	1,647	617	2,264	15.1
Year	149	6,998	228	7,375		248	27	121	6,979	2,441	9,420	63.5
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	21	158	1	180		6	5/	16	158	139	297	2.0
Apr.-June	16	166	1	183		6	5/	7	170	139	309	2.1
July-Sept.	7	211	2	220		9	1	8	202	156	358	2.4
Oct.-Dec.	8	211	3	222		12	1	16	193	154	347	2.3
Year	21	746	7	774		33	2	16	723	588	1,311	8.8
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	26	146	5/	172		3	1	14	154	18	172	1.2
Apr.-June	14	102	5/	116		1	1	7	107	15	122	0.8
July-Sept.	7	140	1	148		2	1	7	138	16	154	1.0
Oct.-Dec.	7	148	3	158		4	5/	14	140	18	158	1.1
Year	26	536	4	566		10	3	14	539	67	606	4.1
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	469	1,919	5/	2,388	-	59	20	586	1,723	889	2,612	17.7
Apr.-June	586	1,603	1	2,190	4	45	31	420	1,690	668	2,358	15.9
July-Sept.	420	1,513	1	1,934	-	26	31	205	1,672	524	2,196	14.8
Oct.-Dec.	205	2,317	1	2,523	2	51	22	474	1,974	853	2,827	18.9
Year	469	7,352	3	7,824	6	181	104	474	7,059	2,934	9,993	67.3
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	665	3,962	53	4,680	-	145	26	743	3,766	1,662	5,428	36.8
Apr.-June	743	3,580	41	4,364	4	101	39	508	3,712	1,420	5,132	34.7
July-Sept.	508	3,707	82	4,297	-	105	41	283	3,868	1,306	5,174	34.8
Oct.-Dec.	283	4,383	66	4,732	2	121	30	625	3,954	1,642	5,596	37.4
Year	665	15,632	242	16,539	6	472	136	625	15,300	6,030	21,330	143.7

For footnotes see last page of table.

- Continued

Table 10.- Supply and distribution of meat, United States, by classes, by quarter-years, 1945 to date - Continued

Period	Federally inspected: Supply: Beginning stocks	Supply: Production	Supply: Imports	Supply: Total	Distribution: U.S.D.A. purchases	Distribution: Armed forces	Distribution: Commercial exports and shipments	Distribution: Ending stocks	Distribution: Civilian consumption	Civilian consumption from non-inspected slaughter 1/	Total civilian consumption: Total	Total civilian consumption: Per person
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1950												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	121	1,691	55	1,867		45	5	102	1,715	622	2,337	15.6
Apr.-June	102	1,682	68	1,852		50	5	60	1,737	610	2,347	15.5
July-Sept.	60	1,842	100	2,002		97	7	81	1,817	628	2,445	16.2
Oct.-Dec.	81	1,836	99	2,016		104	4	147	1,761	627	2,388	15.7
Year	121	7,051	322	7,494		296	21	147	7,030	2,487	9,517	63.0
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	16	150	1	167		3	5/	10	154	138	292	1.9
Apr.-June	10	160	4	174		6	1	7	160	137	297	2.0
July-Sept.	7	186	4	197		13	1	8	175	146	321	2.1
Oct.-Dec.	8	171	1	180		12	5/	14	154	142	296	2.0
Year	16	667	10	693		34	2	14	643	563	1,206	8.0
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	14	140	5/	154		1	1	11	141	15	156	1.0
Apr.-June	11	127	5/	138		1	5/	7	130	15	145	1.0
July-Sept.	7	135	5/	142		2	5/	6	134	17	151	1.0
Oct.-Dec.	6	132	3	141		2	1	10	128	16	144	0.9
Year	14	534	3	551		6	2	10	533	63	596	3.9
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	474	2,024	5	2,503		40	29	547	1,887	869	2,756	18.4
Apr.-June	547	1,772	8	2,327		29	27	469	1,802	676	2,478	16.4
July-Sept.	469	1,582	10	2,061		64	23	241	1,733	532	2,265	14.9
Oct.-Dec.	241	2,410	10	2,661		118	31	499	2,013	849	2,862	18.9
Year	474	7,788	33	8,295		251	110	499	7,435	2,926	10,361	68.6
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	625	4,005	61	4,691		89	35	670	3,897	1,644	5,541	36.9
Apr.-June	670	3,741	80	4,491		86	33	543	3,829	1,438	5,267	34.9
July-Sept.	543	3,745	114	4,402		176	31	336	3,859	1,323	5,182	34.2
Oct.-Dec.	336	4,549	113	4,998		236	36	670	4,056	1,634	5,690	37.5
Year	625	16,040	368	17,033		587	135	670	15,641	6,039	21,680	143.5
1951												
Beef:												
Jan.-Mar.	147	1,666	102	1,915		185	4	131	1,595	606	2,201	14.5
Apr.-June	131	1,486	134	1,751		207	3	90	1,451	551	2,002	13.2
July-Sept.	90	1,563	128	1,781		105	4	95	1,577	633	2,210	14.6
Oct.-Dec.	95	1,716	96	1,907		197	4	218	1,488	622	2,110	13.8
Year	147	6,431	460	7,038		694	15	218	6,111	2,412	8,523	56.1
Veal:												
Jan.-Mar.	14	124	1	139		7	1	8	123	120	243	1.6
Apr.-June	8	131	5	144		12	5/	6	126	105	231	1.5
July-Sept.	6	164	4	174		20	1	7	146	126	272	1.8
Oct.-Dec.	7	164	3	174		23	5/	17	134	127	261	1.7
Year	14	583	13	610		62	2	17	529	478	1,007	6.6
Lamb and mutton:												
Jan.-Mar.	10	123	1	134		1	5/	8	125	13	138	0.9
Apr.-June	8	100	2	110		1	1	5	103	11	114	.8
July-Sept.	5	114	1	120		2	5/	7	111	15	126	.8
Oct.-Dec.	7	128	3	138		3	5/	14	121	18	139	.9
Year	10	465	7	482		7	1	14	460	57	517	3.4
Pork excluding lard:												
Jan.-Mar.	499	2,151	11	2,661		127	37	648	1,849	909	2,758	18.2
Apr.-June	648	2,010	13	2,671		187	25	572	1,887	704	2,591	17.1
July-Sept.	572	1,771	12	2,355		88	20	326	1,921	576	2,497	16.4
Oct.-Dec.	326	2,475	15	2,816		104	31	549	2,132	887	3,019	19.9
Year	499	8,407	51	8,957		506	113	549	7,789	3,076	10,865	71.6
All meat:												
Jan.-Mar.	670	4,064	115	4,849		320	42	795	3,692	1,648	5,340	35.2
Apr.-June	795	3,727	154	4,676		407	29	673	3,567	1,371	4,938	32.6
July-Sept.	673	3,612	145	4,430		215	25	435	3,755	1,350	5,105	33.6
Oct.-Dec.	435	4,483	117	5,035		327	35	798	3,875	1,654	5,529	36.3
Year	670	15,886	531	17,087		1,269	131	798	14,889	6,023	20,912	137.7

1/ From non-inspected wholesale and retail slaughter and from farm slaughter. Annual consumption is same as production but quarterly data are adjusted for estimated farm storage.

2/ Allows for meat purchased by the military in one period and transferred to the Department of Agriculture or UNRRA in a later period.

3/ Allows for meat purchased by the military in one period and transferred to the Interior Department at a later period.

4/ Not sum of quarterly averages because population for July 1 differs considerably from average of quarters.

5/ Less than 500,000 lbs.

6/ Sales to non export claimants were greater than deliveries to CCC during period.

Table 11.- Estimated livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-years, 1945-51

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork excluding lard			Total
	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	prod.
	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
1945													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,644	505	1,841	1,577	99	156	5,418	44	238	12,040	147	1,766	4,001
Other whlse. & ret.	1,454	434	631	1,484	113	167	747	40	30	5,476	131	718	1,546
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,082	530	1,633	1,485	100	148	5,237	42	221	9,823	157	1,546	3,548
Other whlse. & ret.	1,340	439	589	1,409	116	163	760	41	31	3,294	140	461	1,244
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,697	495	1,831	1,750	132	231	4,967	42	210	6,880	174	1,195	3,467
Other whlse. & ret.	1,561	431	673	1,437	136	195	678	43	29	3,187	151	481	1,378
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	4,108	470	1,931	2,208	130	288	5,596	44	244	12,217	154	1,880	4,343
Other whlse. & ret.	1,889	427	807	1,554	131	204	665	40	27	5,343	149	796	1,834
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	14,531	498	7,236	7,020	118	823	21,218	43	913	40,960	156	6,387	15,359
Other whlse. & ret.	6,244	432	2,700	5,884	124	729	2,850	41	117	17,300	142	2,456	6,002
Farm	919	370	340	753	148	112	571	41	24	13,631	136	1,854	2,330
Total	21,694	474	10,276	13,657	122	1,664	24,639	43	1,054	71,891	149	10,697	23,691
1946													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	2,928	524	1,535	1,351	87	118	5,614	46	257	13,246	150	1,990	3,900
Other whlse. & ret.	2,058	459	944	1,480	108	160	544	42	23	5,634	144	812	1,939
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	1,839	550	1,012	1,153	91	105	4,774	41	198	10,323	149	1,539	2,854
Other whlse. & ret.	1,669	472	788	1,296	113	147	628	40	25	4,320	145	626	1,586
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	2,835	482	1,366	1,440	126	182	4,616	41	188	7,144	163	1,165	2,901
Other whlse. & ret.	1,870	441	825	1,407	138	194	595	40	24	3,204	145	465	1,508
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,800	460	1,748	1,897	125	237	4,880	42	207	13,681	142	1,948	4,140
Other whlse. & ret.	1,882	421	792	1,386	134	186	583	41	24	4,842	142	689	1,691
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	11,402	499	5,661	5,841	111	642	19,884	43	850	44,394	150	6,642	13,795
Other whlse. & ret.	7,479	448	3,349	5,569	123	687	2,350	41	96	18,000	144	2,592	6,724
Farm	943	385	363	766	148	114	554	41	22	13,721	140	1,916	2,415
Total	19,824	473	9,373	12,176	119	1,143	22,788	42	968	76,115	146	11,150	22,934

For footnotes see last page of table.

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Table 11.- Estimated livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-years 1945-51, Cont'd.

Year	Beef Head	Beef Yield	Beef Prod.	Veal Head	Veal Yield	Veal Prod.	Lamb and mutton Head	Lamb and mutton Yield	Lamb and mutton Prod.	Pork excluding lard Head	Pork excluding lard Yield	Pork excluding lard Prod.	Total prod.
	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
1947													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,773	505	1,896	1,756	101	175	4,050	45	183	13,147	142	1,867	4,121
Other whlse. & ret.	1,461	442	646	1,224	110	135	331	45	15	3,783	133	502	1,298
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,674	509	1,859	1,926	102	196	4,006	44	176	11,101	148	1,639	3,870
Other whlse. & ret.	1,417	439	622	1,282	109	140	351	40	14	2,728	133	362	1,138
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,898	476	1,846	2,003	129	257	3,992	42	165	9,135	154	1,407	3,675
Other whlse. & ret.	1,544	419	647	1,298	126	164	428	40	17	2,444	138	337	1,165
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	4,179	466	1,934	2,248	123	276	4,619	42	193	15,733	138	2,167	4,570
Other whlse. & ret.	1,587	407	646	1,276	118	150	430	37	16	3,858	137	530	1,342
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	15,524	488	7,535	7,933	115	904	16,667	43	717	49,116	144	7,080	16,236
Other whlse. & ret.	6,009	426	2,561	5,080	116	589	1,540	40	62	12,813	135	1,731	4,943
Farm	871	386	336	713	157	112	499	40	20	12,072	140	1,691	2,159
Total	22,404	466	10,432	13,726	117	1,605	18,706	43	799	74,001	142	10,502	23,338
1948													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,275	506	1,643	1,664	97	160	3,730	46	171	12,543	142	1,783	3,757
Other whlse. & ret.	1,375	438	602	1,298	101	131	338	40	14	3,708	134	497	1,244
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	2,885	514	1,470	1,679	105	176	3,285	43	141	11,140	147	1,639	3,426
Other whlse. & ret.	1,388	442	613	1,329	106	141	393	41	16	3,020	138	417	1,187
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,310	486	1,599	1,745	131	228	3,923	42	165	8,320	150	1,248	3,240
Other whlse. & ret.	1,322	424	560	1,137	119	135	432	40	18	2,192	139	305	1,018
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,524	491	1,721	1,819	125	227	4,405	43	188	15,612	139	2,162	4,298
Other whlse. & ret.	1,307	427	558	1,096	114	125	391	39	15	3,134	139	435	1,133
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	12,994	498	6,433	6,907	115	791	15,343	44	665	47,615	144	6,832	14,721
Other whlse. & ret.	5,392	433	2,333	4,860	109	532	1,554	41	63	12,054	137	1,654	4,582
Farm	791	390	309	611	163	100	474	40	19	11,200	140	1,569	1,997
Total	19,177	473	9,075	12,378	115	1,423	17,371	43	747	70,869	142	10,055	21,300

For footnotes see last page of table.

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Table 11.- Estimated livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-years 1945-51, Cont'd.

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork excluding lard			Total
	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	prod.
	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
1949													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,222	542	1,739	1,579	102	158	3,229	45	146	13,771	140	1,919	3,962
Other whlse. & ret.	1,168	455	531	1,108	102	113	274	44	12	3,316	131	434	1,090
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,116	551	1,709	1,605	104	166	2,335	44	102	11,360	141	1,603	3,580
Other whlse. & ret.	1,149	456	524	1,090	110	120	298	40	12	2,544	130	331	987
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,547	522	1,843	1,602	132	211	3,282	43	140	10,461	145	1,513	3,707
Other whlse. & ret.	1,265	440	556	1,096	124	136	353	40	14	2,401	130	313	1,019
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,337	515	1,707	1,663	127	211	3,290	45	148	17,440	133	2,317	4,383
Other whlse. & ret.	1,209	441	533	1,085	115	125	315	41	13	3,468	128	445	1,116
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	13,222	532	6,998	6,449	116	746	12,136	44	536	53,032	139	7,352	15,632
Other whlse. & ret.	4,791	448	2,144	4,379	113	494	1,240	41	51	11,729	130	1,523	4,212
Farm	752	395	297	570	165	94	404	40	16	10,236	138	1,411	1,818
Total	18,765	503	9,439	11,398	117	1,334	13,780	44	603	74,997	137	10,286	21,662
1950													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,123	544	1,691	1,494	101	150	2,879	49	140	15,055	135	2,024	4,005
Other whlse. & ret.	1,173	460	540	1,081	105	113	248	40	10	3,555	126	447	1,110
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,100	545	1,682	1,475	109	160	2,793	46	127	12,809	139	1,772	3,741
Other whlse. & ret.	1,171	460	539	1,024	114	117	284	42	12	2,885	126	364	1,032
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,450	538	1,842	1,415	132	186	3,099	44	135	11,077	143	1,582	3,745
Other whlse. & ret.	1,259	455	573	1,024	123	126	320	44	14	2,587	129	335	1,048
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,430	538	1,836	1,466	117	171	2,968	45	132	18,023	134	2,410	4,549
Other whlse. & ret.	1,195	456	545	994	115	114	261	42	11	3,552	130	463	1,133
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	13,103	541	7,051	5,850	115	667	11,739	46	534	56,964	137	7,788	16,040
Other whlse. & ret.	4,798	458	2,197	4,123	114	470	1,113	42	47	12,579	128	1,609	4,323
Farm	723	401	290	531	176	93	392	40	16	9,720	135	1,317	1,716
Total	18,624	512	9,538	10,504	117	1,230	13,244	45	597	79,263	135	10,714	22,079

For footnotes see last page of table.

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Table 11.- Estimated livestock slaughter and meat production, United States, by quarter-years 1945-51, Cont'd.

Year	Beef			Veal			Lamb and mutton			Pork excluding lard			Total
	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	Head	Yield	Prod.	prod.
	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Thous.	Lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
1951													
Jan.-Mar.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,012	556	1,666	1,255	99	124	2,536	49	123	15,860	136	2,151	4,064
Other whlse. & ret.	1,091	478	522	918	104	96	194	43	8	3,879	127	491	1,117
Apr.-June													
Fed. inspected 1/	2,667	560	1,486	1,226	107	131	2,125	47	100	14,641	138	2,010	3,727
Other whlse. & ret.	999	479	479	771	111	85	214	42	9	3,130	127	399	972
July-Sept.													
Fed. inspected 1/	2,940	534	1,563	1,203	137	164	2,579	45	114	12,460	142	1,771	3,612
Other whlse. & ret.	1,226	470	577	854	125	107	321	41	13	3,001	128	383	1,080
Oct.-Dec.													
Fed. inspected 1/	3,260	530	1,716	1,301	127	164	2,816	46	128	19,093	130	2,475	4,483
Other whlse. & ret.	1,181	458	540	890	114	101	290	42	13	3,997	128	510	1,164
Year													
Fed. inspected 1/	11,879	544	6,431	4,985	118	583	10,056	47	465	62,054	136	8,407	15,886
Other whlse. & ret.	4,497	471	2,118	3,433	113	389	1,019	42	43	14,007	127	1,783	4,333
Farm	724	406	294	495	180	89	343	39	14	9,520	136	1,293	1,690
Total	17,100	517	8,843	8,913	119	1,061	11,418	46	522	85,581	134	11,483	21,909

1/ Excludes production in Hawaii and Virgin Islands.

Digest of OPS and NPA Regulations Affecting Meat and Meat Animals

This list supplements those appearing in earlier issues of this Situation. These lists are compiled for their reference value now and in the future. Questions regarding the application of the regulations should be referred to the Agency administering them.

Issued by the Office of Price Stabilization, Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Ceiling Price Regulation Supplementary Regulation 61 Amendment 2 Issued May 23, 1952 Effective May 28, 1952	Extends the mandatory filing date until June 30, 1952 and clarifies the definition of "Specialty Beef Products".
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 9 Issued May 23, 1952 Effective May 28, 1952	Fixes dollars-and-cents ceilings for wholesale sales of certain cured, dried and smoked beef products, and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 10 Issued May 26, 1952 Effective May 31, 1952	Requires wholesale beef distributors to file with OPS District Offices instead of Regional Offices.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 11 Issued June 12, 1952 Effective June 13, 1952	Makes several changes in CPR 24 applicable to distribution point, local delivery and zone differentials.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 12 Issued June 13, 1952 Effective June 13, 1952	Amends CPR 24 to permit all hotel supply houses to use the same schedule of ceiling prices for sales of beef to all buyers except retailers, regardless of source of supply.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1 Interpretation 2 Issued May 9, 1952 Effective May 9, 1952	Clarifies the definition of boneless chuck sold as stew meat.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1 Issued May 23, 1952 Effective May 28, 1952	Provides for changes in retail beef ceilings in line with wholesale ceiling prices established by CPR 24, Amdt. 9, and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 3 Issued May 8, 1952 Effective May 13, 1952	Simplifies filing requirements for pork wholesalers and clarifies the definition of certain pork cuts.

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 4 Issued May 20, 1952 Effective May 26, 1952	Changes the definition of blade meat.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 5 Issued May 26, 1952 Effective May 31, 1952	Requires wholesale pork distributors to file with OPS District Offices instead of Regional Offices. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 10).
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 6 Issued June 13, 1952 Effective June 13, 1952	Permits all hotel supply houses to use the same schedule of ceiling prices for sales of pork to all buyers except retailers, regardless of source of supply. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 12).
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 7 Issued June 17, 1952 Effective June 17, 1952	Adds dollars-and-cents ceiling prices for sales of heavy regular hams at wholesale.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 5 Issued May 26, 1952 Effective May 31, 1952	Requires wholesale lamb and mutton sellers to file with OPS District Offices instead of Regional Offices (See CPR 24, Amdt. 10).
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 6 Issued June 13, 1952 Effective June 13, 1952	Permits all hotel supply houses and combination distributors to use the same ceiling prices to all buyers except retailers regardless of source of supply. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 12).
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 3 Issued May 26, 1952 Effective May 31, 1952	Changes filing requirements for wholesalers of veal. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 10).
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 4 Issued June 13, 1952 Effective June 13, 1952	Permits all hotel supply houses and combination distributors to use the same ceiling prices to all buyers except retailers regardless of source of supply.
Ceiling Price Regulation 124 Amendment 2 Issued April 14, 1952 Effective April 19, 1952	Clarifies record-keeping requirements for sales of surgical catgut sutures.
Ceiling Price Regulation 129 Amendment 1 Issued May 14, 1952 Effective May 19, 1952	Eliminates the prohibition against inclusion of horsemeat in sausages, and makes other changes.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-May 1951	January-May 1952	1951 May	1952 April	1952 May	1952 June
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	39.35	36.97	38.73	37.24	36.20	34.63
Choice	do.	36.17	34.57	36.52	34.76	34.17	32.81
Good	do.	33.47	31.74	34.03	31.56	31.62	30.74
Commercial	do.	31.30	28.74	31.32	28.16	28.64	28.18
Utility	do.	28.92	26.13	28.06	25.88	26.20	25.68
All grades	do.	35.25	33.62	35.71	33.39	33.29	32.22
Omaha, all grades	do.	34.06	32.10	34.17	31.58	31.79	27.95
Sioux City, all grades	do.	34.06	31.92	34.21	31.31	32.01	29.38
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	27.42	24.52	28.91	24.90	25.42	24.01
Utility	do.	25.11	22.29	25.88	22.62	23.17	21.39
Canner and Cutter	do.	21.60	19.40	21.63	19.54	20.16	18.57
Vealers, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	37.64	37.38	37.66	36.87	37.24	34.95
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	34.27	31.72	34.29	31.32	32.06	27.21
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	29.20	27.62	29.70	27.80	27.90	26.70
Veal calves	do.	32.72	31.42	33.00	31.10	31.20	30.70
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	21.11	17.59	20.75	16.69	20.26	20.04
180-200 pounds	do.	21.87	18.39	21.45	17.24	21.06	20.95
200-220 pounds	do.	21.97	18.46	21.61	17.31	21.21	20.96
220-240 pounds	do.	21.88	18.23	21.55	17.20	20.95	20.69
240-270 pounds	do.	21.67	17.78	21.38	16.94	20.42	20.11
270-300 pounds	do.	21.30	17.30	20.98	16.58	19.81	19.42
All weights	do.	21.60	17.79	21.27	16.86	20.21	20.41
Eight markets 3/	do.	21.33	17.61	20.95	16.70	20.21	20.33
Sows, Chicago	do.	18.91	15.67	18.80	15.20	17.78	17.37
Price received by farmers	do.	20.82	17.54	20.40	16.40	20.00	19.40
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.2	9.7	12.0	9.3	11.0	11.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	13.0	10.5	12.4	9.8	11.8	11.2
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	21.26	14.20	18.06	13.99	12.78	9.21
Price received by farmers	do.	17.66	13.26	17.10	13.60	12.90	11.60
Lambs							
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	37.91	28.80	36.36	28.58	30.72	29.25
	do.						
Price received by farmers	do.	33.10	26.66	32.50	26.40	26.30	25.80
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers							
(1910-14=100)		418	378	418	372	394	380
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	55.91	55.18	56.84	55.25	54.88	53.49
Lamb carcass, Choice, 30-40 pounds 5/	do.	55.79	55.98	58.00	57.90	59.60	58.45
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	23.49	19.41	23.91	18.36	21.09	21.01
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.25	26.65	32.83	25.21	28.95	28.84
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	26.39	22.60	26.25	21.92	24.30	24.35
Average per 100 pounds	do.	37.00	31.69	36.81	30.73	34.07	34.14
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	84.6	87.4	84.5	87.0	87.0	---
Lamb	do.	75.1	76.1	77.5	74.4	77.1	---
Pork, including lard	do.	45.0	40.2	45.1	39.1	39.9	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1947-49=100)		118.2	112.9	120.1	111.1	114.3	---
Retail (1935-39=100) 6/		270.7	270.6	272.4	268.1	271.7	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ 40-50 lb. carcass all months of 1952 except January.
6/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan-May 1951	Jan-May 1952	1951 May	1952 April-	1952 May-	1952 June
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		141	150	138	144	135	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000	708	717	124	128	155	
Cattle and calves	head	737	623	258	131	141	
Sheep and lambs	do.						
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	4,892	4,956	986	938	1,009	
Calves	do.	2,075	1,915	414	405	388	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,850	4,884	657	941	939	
Hogs	do.	25,801	28,153	4,952	5,281	4,482	
Percentage sows	Percent	6	6	8	6	9	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	1,010.	1,009.	997.	1,002	1,003.	
Calves	do.	177.	189.	183.	177	202.	
Sheep and lambs	do.	102.	103.	100.	103	100.	
Hogs	do.	244.	242.	244.	236	242.	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	558	564	563	564	563	
Veal, per head	do.	100	108	104	101	117	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	49	49	48	49	48	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	136	133	135	130	133	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	56	55	55	55	55	
Lard, per head	do.	36	37	36	36	37	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	15	16	15	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	2,718	2,779	552	526	565	
Veal	do.	206	205	43	41	45	
Lamb and mutton	do.	187	239	31	46	45	
Pork 2/	do.	3,488	3,740	665	683	594	
Lard	do.	924	1,040	180	192	166	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	6,658	6,796	1,328	1,308	1,378	
Calves	do.	3,523	3,533	673	702	656	
Sheep and lambs	do.	4,179	5,295	724	1,032	1,027	
Hogs	do.	31,852	34,905	6,002	6,564	5,618	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	3,562	3,662	716	703	742	
Veal	do.	358	360	71	72	77	
Lamb and mutton	do.	201	256	34	50	49	
Pork 2/	do.	4,253	4,576	798	839	736	
Lard	do.	1,071	1,210	207	225	195	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	-	-	111	256	241	203
Veal	do.	-	-	7	12	12	11
Lamb and mutton	do.	-	-	5	15	13	15
Pork	do.	-	-	654	822	824	725
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	-	-	892	1,242	1,231	1,084

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

Regulation	Principal provisions
General Overriding Regulation 4 Revision 1 Amendment 4 Issued June 23, 1952 Effective June 23, 1952	Suspends ceilings on imported and domestic hides and skins.
General Overriding Regulation 7 Amendment 16 Issued June 11, 1952 Effective June 11, 1952	Exempts from price control certain raw and semi-processed animal glands.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Interpretation 1 Issued June 9, 1951 Effective June 9, 1951	Interprets the application of CPR 24 concerning beef sales in conjunction with sales of freezers or refrigerators.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1 Interpretation 3 Issued June 9, 1951 Effective June 9, 1951	Interprets the application of CPR 25 concerning beef sales in conjunction with sales of freezers or refrigerators.

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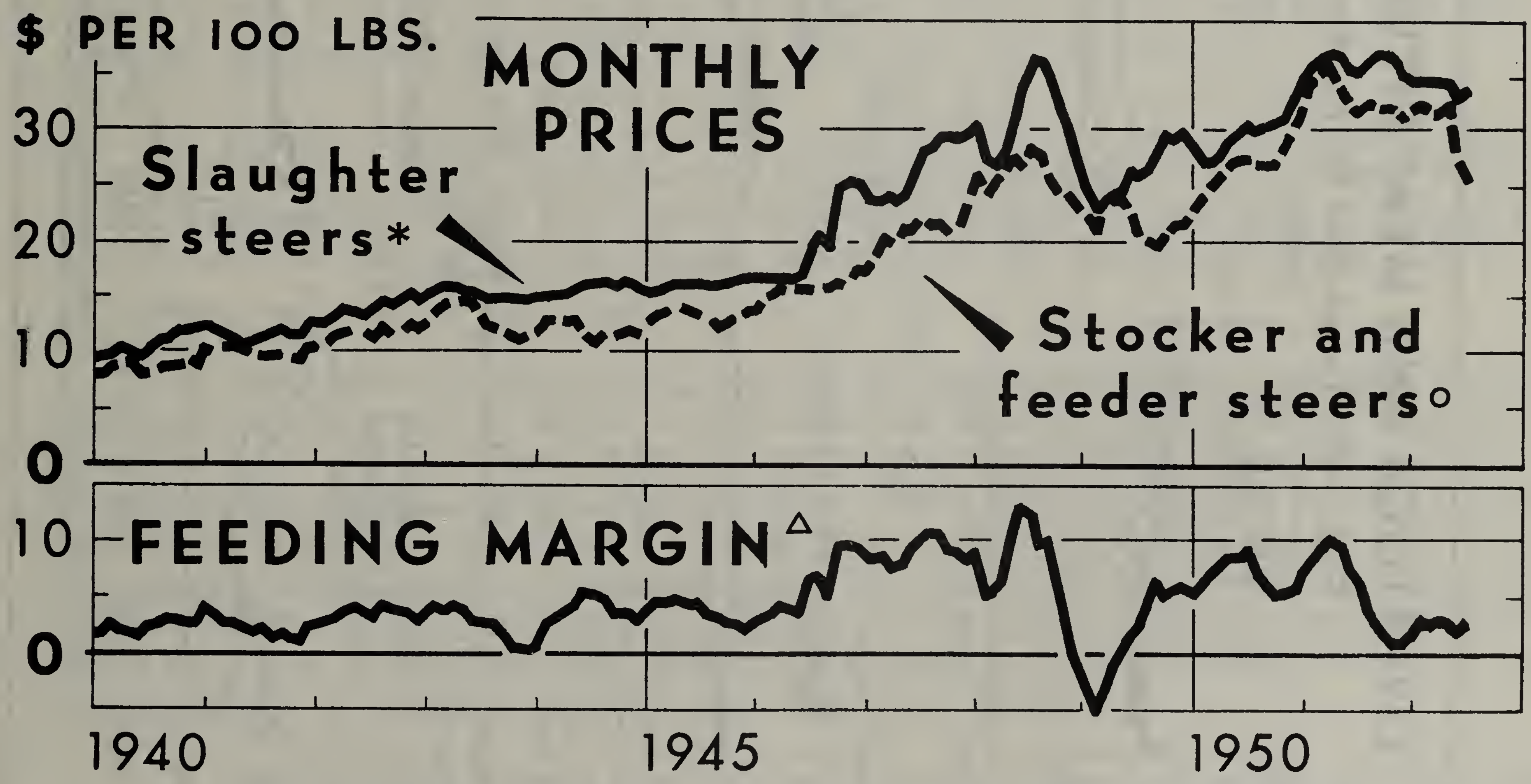
THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-61 BAE JULY-AUG. 1952

In this issue:
Reports of Cattle on Feed

MARKET PRICES AND FEEDING MARGIN FOR CATTLE

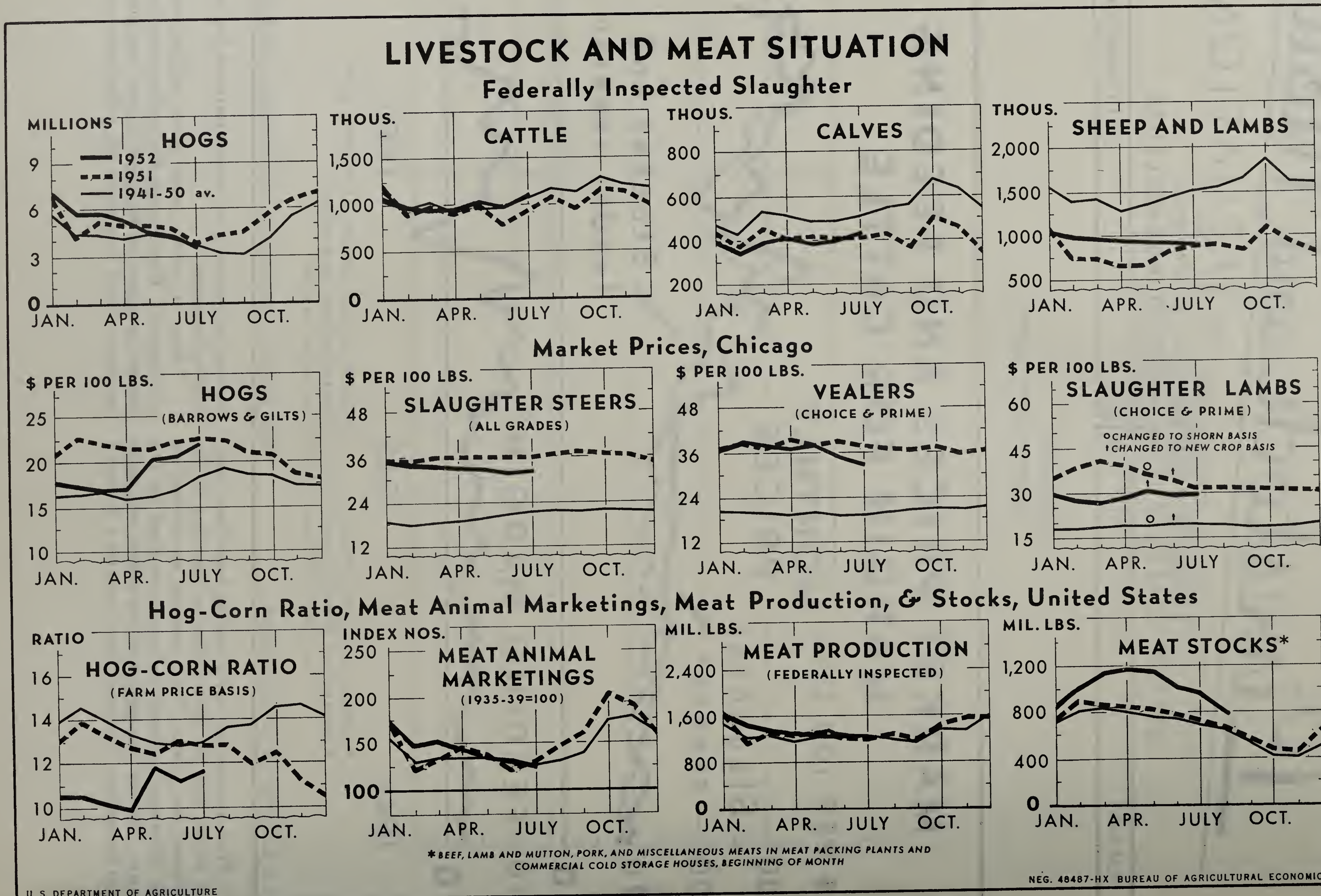


* CHOICE GRADE AT CHICAGO ° AVERAGE OF ALL GRADES AT KANSAS CITY
△DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRICES OF SLAUGHTER STEERS AND PRICES OF STOCKERS AND FEEDERS 7 MONTHS EARLIER

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 47333-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Price margins in cattle feeding have been smaller in the last 12 months than at any time in the previous two years. Price margins are defined as the difference between the prices received for fed cattle sold for slaughter and the prices originally paid for feeders. They are shown here for a 7-months feeding period which is representative of the various feeding programs.

Prices of feeder cattle have declined sharply this summer. Even though the moderate decline expected in prices of slaughter cattle should occur, margins are likely to be wider, and profits about average.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1952
1951
1941-50 av.
THOUS.
CATTLE
THOUS.
CALVES
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48487-HX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, August 19, 1952

SUMMARY

An increase in cattle marketings over last year following a rapid rise in production, and a decrease in hog marketings because of smaller pig crops are the chief developments in meat animals this fall. These developments are being intensified to some degree by drought in some States and embargoes on hog marketings in various areas due to disease.

Drought prevailed in June, July and early August in many southern States, much of New England, the Southern Plains, and scattered areas elsewhere. With rain occurring in some sections and with disaster loans for farmers authorized, there was little selling of cattle breeding herds. However, young stock were sold earlier, at lighter weight, and in greater numbers than they otherwise would have been. Receipts of all cattle and calves at 12 public stockyards the 4 weeks ended August 16 were 14 percent larger than in the same weeks last year. Much of the increase resulted from the greater numbers being raised, but a part was due to drought.

Cattle slaughter in the last month or so has been above last year but not greatly so. Many of the cattle marketed from ranges and pastures have moved as feeders to the Corn Belt, where the biggest corn crop in 4 years is in prospect. The volume of cattle feeding this winter may be the largest on record.

Appearance of the hog disease, vesicular exanthema, led the Federal Government and several State Governments to embargo shipments of hogs and pork in some areas. Marketings of hogs were temporarily reduced in some Western Corn Belt markets. Restrictions have now been eased and will likely not have much further effect on marketings. However, with a big corn crop in prospect, there seems to be a tendency to hold hogs for feeding on new corn where the supply of old corn is small. Total hog marketings and slaughter this fall and winter will be down from a year earlier because the 1952 spring pig crop was 9 percent smaller than the 1951 crop.

Cattle prices have trended lower this summer. Biggest decline has been in feeder cattle, which have been around $7.00 per 100 pounds below last year. The least change has occurred in well finished slaughter cattle. Lower prices for feeder cattle were due chiefly to the sharply expanded supply. But in addition, demand from buyers was weaker because of the decline in price of slaughter cattle and the below-average returns earned by feeders last season. Some firming is possible in prices of feeder cattle but no appreciable increase is expected until after the main marketing season is over.

Because of the lower prices for feeder cattle, profits from feeding this winter may be higher than last winter. This is possible despite the prospects for another reduction in price of slaughter cattle next year and for prices of feed as high or higher than last year. Lower prices of slaughter cattle in months ahead are likely because of increases both in slaughter

of fed cattle and total cattle slaughter. On July 1, 13 percent more cattle were on feed in the Corn Belt than a year earlier. Much of the increase will be sold this fall, probably preventing fed cattle prices from showing their usual seasonal strength. Later in the fall or winter, a delayed seasonal advance might occur. A record volume of cattle feeding this winter would be followed by an increased slaughter of fed cattle and probably by lower prices next year.

Total cattle slaughter is rising as a result of 3 years of expansion in production, and will continue to increase gradually.

Prices of hogs at Chicago in mid-August were a little below the prices of last August. Prices this fall may decline no more than usual for the season. The average price for the season may be about as high or a little higher than last fall.

The 1952 lamb crop was 2 percent larger than the 1951 crop. A reduction of 2 percent in the Western States was more than offset by an increase of 10 percent in the Native (Eastern) States. This year's crop is still small compared with earlier years. Sheep and lamb slaughter in the first half of 1952 was considerably above the previous year, but slaughter this fall is not likely to differ greatly from a year earlier.

If the Mexican border is opened for imports of cattle this fall, prospects are that a few hundred thousand head of steers will enter during the first year. The biggest percentage would go to ranges rather than directly to slaughter.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Seasonal Rise in Livestock Slaughter: More Cattle but Fewer Hogs than Last Year

Seasonal increases are now underway in slaughter of each class of meat animals. As usual, the year's largest slaughter of cattle and sheep is due in early to mid-fall and of hogs in late fall.

Compared with last year, slaughter of cattle will be considerably larger and of hogs smaller. Slaughter of sheep and lambs will show little or no change.

Commercial slaughter of cattle in the first half of this year was 4 percent above the same period last year. Weekly data on slaughter under Federal inspection indicate increases of 10 to 20 percent in July and early August. Cattle slaughter will continue appreciably above last year. Hog slaughter has been less than last year since May and will continue less.

Drought in South, Northeast, and Part of West

Expanding production and numbers of cattle is the major cause for the increase in cattle slaughter over last year. In the 3 years beginning January 1949, the number of cattle on farms rose 11 million head. The number this past January was a record 88 million.

Dry weather in many areas this summer has contributed slightly to the increase in slaughter. Drought has been severe in the South, Northeast, the Southern Plains, and scattered areas elsewhere. On August 1, the average pasture condition for the United States as a whole was the same as 1939 and the lowest since the great droughts of the middle 1930's. During July and early August, emergency drought areas were proclaimed in a number of Southern and New England States and in parts of Missouri, Illinois and Indiana.

With disaster loans available in the emergency areas for buying feed and with August rains occurring over much of the South, there has been little selling of breeding stock. However, some young stock have been sold off pasture earlier, at lighter weight and poorer quality, and in greater number than they otherwise would have been.

One reason the dry weather has been a serious problem to cattle producers is that the number of cattle on farms has increased so fast the last few years--probably a good deal faster than the feed supply. This is especially true in the Southeast, where the number is by far the highest on record.

Cattle marketings have increased more than slaughter. While 14 percent more cattle and calves were received at 12 major public stockyards in the 4 weeks ended August 16 than a year earlier, Federally inspected slaughter of cattle and calves combined was up 10 percent. The larger gain in receipts than in slaughter reflects greater movement as stockers and feeders.

Large Corn Crop Indicated in Corn Belt

One reason more cattle and calves are moving as feeders is the large corn crop in prospect. The United States corn crop of 3,136 million bushels in prospect would be 7 percent above last year, but only 4 percent above the average of the last 10 years. The carryover of corn at the beginning of the feeding year will be considerably smaller than a year earlier, and the prospective supply of corn is about the same as in 1951-52. The Corn Belt has had a good growing season, particularly for corn. The crop indicated on August 1 for the North Central States would be 16 percent above last year and the largest since 1948. The crop outside the Corn Belt is below average.

If these favorable prospects for corn are realized, the volume of cattle feeding this winter probably will be a record.

Lower Prices for Feeder Cattle May Permit Average Returns from Feeding

Prices of stocker and feeder cattle are much lower this fall than last. Prices dropped several dollars per 100 pounds in June, recovered only a little, and in mid-August were substantially below a year earlier.

Lower prices are due chiefly to the larger supply of feeder cattle. However, other factors are the declining prices for slaughter cattle--always an influence in the feeder market--and the reluctance of feeders to pay high prices in view of their below-average returns from feeding during the past season. Though some firming is possible, no appreciable increase in feeder prices is likely until the fall marketing season is over.

Feeder prices have declined more than prices of slaughter cattle, and the price spread between the two is wider this fall than last. This is shown by the price comparisons for August of each of the last 3 years given in table 1. Feeder steer prices at Kansas City the first 2 weeks this August were $7.33 per 100 pounds less than last August. Prices of Choice slaughter steers at Chicago were $2.99 dollars lower. The difference between the two prices increased from $3.26 last August to $7.60 this year. This offers more promise of profits for the cattle feeder than did the narrower spread of last year.

The increase in cattle slaughter and the decrease in prices next year seem likely to be moderate. The most reasonable prospect is for a further reduction, but no extreme break, in prices of fed cattle next year. However, it is more difficult to realize good profits when cattle slaughter is on the upswing phase of its cycle, as it is now, than when it is decreasing. This is true because an increase in slaughter is usually accompanied by a corresponding decline in prices between the time cattle are bought as feeders and sold for slaughter.

This longer-range price outlook assumes that consumer demand for meat will continue essentially unchanged. It envisages neither a severe price inflation, which would assure profits to virtually all feeders, nor a deflation which would result in general losses. Though this is the assumption as to the future, it is true that trends in business conditions and consumers' incomes in past years have had as much or more influence on profits from cattle feeding than have trends in numbers fed and in slaughter.

Table 1.- Comparisons between prices of selected grades of slaughter and feeder steers, month of August, 1948-52

August of	Price of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City, per 100 lbs. 1/	Price of slaughter steers at Chicago, per 100 pounds			Price comparisons, per 100 pounds	
		Prime	Choice	Average of Good and Commercial	Choice slaughter steers minus stocker and feeder steers	Prime minus Good-Commercial slaughter steers
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1948	27.40	39.48	36.02	29.15	8.62	10.33
1949	20.06	28.01	26.50	23.06	6.44	4.95
1950	26.90	31.37	29.97	28.02	3.07	3.35
1951	32.59	37.92	35.85	31.59	3.26	6.33
1952 2/	25.26	34.26	32.86	28.35	7.60	5.91

1/ Average of all weights and grades.
2/ Average for 2 weeks ending August 14.

Compiled from data from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Large Marketings of
Fed Cattle this Fall

Through mid-fall substantially more fed cattle apparently will be marketed than a year previously.

On July 1, 13 percent more cattle were on feed in the Corn Belt than on the same date last year. Much of the increase was in long-fed cattle intended for market in early fall. A little later, however, marketings promise to be only a little larger than a year before, unless more short-fed cattle should be marketed than are now expected. A delayed seasonal rise in prices of top grades of cattle might appear at that time. If so, it probably would be followed by a seasonal decline next spring and summer.

Feed Prices Higher in
Relation to Cattle Prices

The larger corn crop in prospect will likely result in slightly lower prices of corn in the Corn Belt, although the loan program would prevent a large decline. Prices of hay and of protein supplements are less likely to decrease and could average higher in the coming year. The 1952 hay crop is about 8 percent smaller than the crop of last year, though generally of better quality. Prices of corn and other feed will probably be higher in relation to prices of fed cattle than in the last several years, though not higher than a long-time average relationship. Price comparisons for a standard Corn Belt feed program, for instance, indicate that for the first time in a number of years, fed cattle in each of the last 3 seasons sold for more per pound than the cost of putting on the gain. Profits thus were realized both from the price margin per pound on the fed steer over the cost of the feeder, and from the margin realized over cost of gain. It is quite possible that in the coming season the cost of gain will be as high as the selling price of the fed animal per pound, so that all returns will once again be derived from the price margin between feeder and fed steers.1/

In view of these factors the prospect is that profits from feeding cattle this winter could be better than last winter, provided the reduction expected in prices of slaughter cattle is only moderate. Profits are fairly certain to be below the high returns of 1949-50 and 1950-51. On the whole, prices of feeder stock appear to be down enough that an efficient feeder can feed and sell on a slowly declining fed cattle market and still make an average return.

The following illustrates possible comparisons for the feeding program referred to above. Feeder steers are considered as bought at Kansas City for $25.00 per 100 pounds. Feed costs are assumed to be the same as last year. On this basis, a profit per steer the same as the 10-year average would be realized if the steers sold as Choice grade at Chicago next spring for $30.00 to $31.00 per 100 pounds. Higher slaughter prices would give above-average profits; lower prices, below-average profits.

1/ These comparisons differ, of course, for various types of feeding programs.

Table 2.- Price of Choice grade slaughter steers at Chicago and of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City, and 7 months lagged margin, by months, 1943 to date

(Data for cover page)

Year and month	Price per 100 pounds: Choice grade slaughter steers, Chicago	Price per 100 pounds: Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	Margin between slaughter steers, and stockers and feeders 7 months previous 2/	Year and month	Price per 100 pounds: Choice grade slaughter steers, Chicago	Price per 100 pounds: Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	Margin between slaughter steers, and stockers and feeders 7 months previous 2/
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1943				1948			
Jan.	15.05	12.67	3.22	Jan.	30.36	26.31	9.25
Feb.	15.53	13.48	4.44	Feb.	27.10	24.15	5.19
Mar.	15.92	14.49	3.87	Mar.	26.92	25.57	5.70
Apr.	15.91	14.58	4.27	Apr.	28.17	26.62	6.52
May	15.59	14.60	3.76	May	30.91	27.80	9.95
June	15.50	14.38	2.88	June	34.85	26.96	13.53
July	15.06	12.48	2.82	July	36.44	28.25	12.85
Aug.	15.29	12.17	2.62	Aug.	36.02	27.40	9.71
Sept.	15.27	11.81	1.79	Sept.	34.49	25.42	10.34
Oct.	14.92	11.36	0.43	Oct.	32.24	24.41	6.67
Nov.	14.93	10.97	0.40	Nov.	30.68	24.52	4.06
Dec.	14.39	11.29	0.29	Dec.	27.92	23.26	0.22
1944				1949			
Jan.	15.00	11.60	0.62	Jan.	24.72	22.15	-2.24
Feb.	15.12	12.95	2.64	Feb.	22.99	21.25	-5.26
Mar.	15.23	13.06	3.06	Mar.	24.19	24.37	-3.21
Apr.	15.33	12.76	3.52	Apr.	24.37	23.66	-1.05
May	15.73	12.84	4.37	May	24.92	24.02	0.51
June	16.23	11.65	5.26	June	26.37	22.53	1.85
July	16.35	10.93	5.06	July	25.96	20.62	2.70
Aug.	16.42	11.50	4.82	Aug.	26.50	20.06	4.35
Sept.	16.26	11.34	3.31	Sept.	28.22	19.74	6.97
Oct.	16.56	11.50	3.50	Oct.	29.63	20.57	5.26
Nov.	16.27	11.96	3.51	Nov.	29.35	21.45	5.69
Dec.	15.62	11.49	2.78	Dec.	29.91	21.44	5.89
1945				1950			
Jan.	15.35	12.40	3.70	Jan.	28.14	22.94	5.61
Feb.	15.42	13.00	4.49	Feb.	27.19	24.13	6.57
Mar.	15.81	13.60	4.31	Mar.	27.33	25.32	7.27
Apr.	16.11	13.90	4.77	Apr.	27.66	25.79	7.92
May	16.16	14.23	4.66	May	29.19	27.19	8.62
June	16.16	13.73	4.20	June	29.99	27.44	8.54
July	16.17	13.54	4.68	July	30.62	27.48	9.18
Aug.	15.98	13.08	3.58	Aug.	29.97	26.90	7.03
Sept.	16.15	12.25	3.15	Sept.	30.32	26.90	6.19
Oct.	16.45	12.62	2.85	Oct.	30.42	26.92	5.10
Nov.	16.56	13.19	2.66	Nov.	31.24	28.46	5.45
Dec.	16.45	13.41	2.22	Dec.	32.98	29.45	5.79
1946				1951			
Jan.	16.51	13.56	2.78	Jan.	34.77	31.88	7.33
Feb.	16.36	14.71	2.82	Feb.	35.98	34.42	8.50
Mar.	16.37	15.22	3.29	Mar.	36.67	35.12	9.77
Apr.	16.46	15.86	4.21	Apr.	36.93	35.64	10.03
May	16.55	15.82	3.93	May	36.52	34.29	9.60
June	16.98	15.72	3.79	June	35.68	32.83	7.22
July	19.86	15.53	6.45	July	35.47	31.61	6.02
Aug.	20.73	15.51	7.17	Aug.	35.85	32.59	3.97
Sept.	19.58	15.99	4.87	Sept.	36.68	31.90	2.26
Oct.	24.97	16.42	9.75	Oct.	36.31	31.97	1.19
Nov.	25.63	16.30	9.77	Nov.	36.09	31.63	0.45
Dec.	25.28	17.63	9.46	Dec.	34.78	30.45	0.49
1947				1952			
Jan.	23.93	17.68	8.21	Jan.	34.68	31.19	1.85
Feb.	23.79	18.96	8.26	Feb.	34.57	32.06	2.96
Mar.	24.05	20.13	8.54	Mar.	34.69	31.99	2.10
Apr.	23.45	19.91	7.46	Apr.	34.76	31.32	2.86
May	24.22	21.33	7.80	May	34.17	32.06	2.20
June	25.72	21.11	9.42	June	32.81	27.21	1.18
July	27.64	21.91	10.01	July	33.03	26.24	2.58
Aug.	28.27	21.22	10.59	Aug. 3/	33.05	25.51	1.86
Sept.	29.43	21.65	10.47	Sept.			
Oct.	29.55	20.96	9.42	Oct.			
Nov.	29.12	21.32	9.21	Nov.			
Dec.	29.62	23.59	8.29	Dec.			

1/ Average for all weights and grades. 2/ Margin between prices of Choice grade slaughter steers at Chicago for current month shown and of stocker and feeder steers at Kansas City 7 months previously. 3/ Average for first 3 weeks.

1937-42 data available in August 1949 issue of this publication.
Market price data compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Small Current Premium
for Prime Grade

The price comparisons in table 1 show that the premium for Prime over Choice steers has recently been narrow. In mid-August the premium at Chicago was only $1.51 per 100 pounds. This is not especially encouraging for feeding past the Choice grade.

Premiums over lower grades, on the other hand, are moderately wide. The spread between Prime and the Good-Commercial average (the old Medium grade) has been nearly as wide as last year and wider than in the two previous years. This spread offers promise of about average returns from short-feeding medium-weight, medium-quality cattle to a higher grade.

Hog Slaughter Rising Seasonally but
Smaller than Last Year; Vesicular
Exanthema Disease a Factor

Hog slaughter has been smaller than last year each month since May after exceeding a year earlier in the 4 preceding months. Slaughter is now increasing seasonally but will continue smaller than a year ago. The 1952 spring pig crop, from which hogs are marketed from early fall to mid-winter, was 9 percent smaller than the 1951 crop.

Even though the average date of farrowings was slightly earlier last spring than in the previous spring, marketings did not rise faster in August this year than last. Holding hogs for fattening on new crop corn in some areas where old corn is short has had a delaying effect. Embargoes in a number of States and areas for control of the disease, vesicular exanthema, slowed marketings temporarily in Western Corn Belt States in late July-early August.

On August 1, the Secretary of Agriculture proclaimed a state of emergency in regard to vesicular exanthema. A number of areas where the disease was known to exist were placed under quarantine. No hogs originating in a quarantine area can be moved from one State to another except under permit to an approved establishment for immediate slaughter. Animals or carcasses found to be unfit for food are to be processed for tankage. Carcasses passed as suitable for food are to be processed to destroy any virus present, so it cannot find its way into garbage which may be fed to hogs. Hogs from areas not under quarantine can move into or through stockyards where Bureau of Animal Industry inspection is maintained.

Vesicular exanthema has existed in California, primarily in garbage-fed hogs, for 20 years, but during the past month or so it has spread to 15 more States. The disease apparently does not affect other farm animals, or humans. Mortality among diseased hogs is usually low.

In addition to the Federal embargoes, several States restricted movement of hogs in an effort to avoid spreading the disease or, in some cases, to avoid introducing the infection. By late August, some of the various restrictions had been modified or lifted.

Quarantined areas that are surplus producers have been affected most severely. Receipts of hogs at Sioux City, Kansas City and Omaha markets, among others, were reduced sharply in late July and early August. They increased later.

Seasonal Price
Decline Likely

Prices of hogs at most markets at mid-August were only a little below the same time last year. They are expected to decline seasonally until about early December. The reduction will likely be no larger than usual, and prices seem likely to average equal to or little above last fall. Any increase over last year will be less than the 9 percent change in numbers raised. Demand for products of pork, under pressure of a larger beef supply and a weaker market for fats, is not as strong as last year.

Hog production and slaughter are expected to continue at a reduced level until at least the summer of 1953, as a 9 percent smaller fall pig crop was indicated by farmers' intentions on June 1.

Sheep and Lamb Slaughter to be
Close to Last Year; Lamb Crop
Up 2 Percent

Commercial slaughter of sheep and lambs in the first 6 months of 1952 was 25 percent above the same period of 1951. In July and August, however, slaughter has been about the same as a year earlier. Slaughter this fall is likely to remain close to last fall. The 1952 lamb crop of 18,401,000 is only 2 percent larger than the 1951 crop and only 3 percent above the 1950 low. Although the crop in the Native States was 10 percent larger than in 1951, the crop of the Western sheep States declined 2 percent and was the smallest on record. A 10 percent reduction in lambs in Texas, the leading sheep State, more than offset increases in several other Western States.

The larger lamb crop for the United States and for the Native States was brought about by a larger number of breeding ewes and an increase in the average number of lambs saved per 100 ewes. However, in the Western sheep States the percentage lamb crop was less than in 1951.

U.S.-Mexican Border Due to
be Reopened for Cattle

The United States-Mexican border was due to be reopened on September 1 for shipments of cattle into this country. Entry of cattle from Mexico has been banned for nearly 6 years, while the joint U.S.-Mexican program for control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico has been carried on. No new outbreak of the malady has occurred for several months.

According to a report by a special Department of Agriculture mission, a few hundred thousand head of cattle are expected to be exported to the United States in the first 12 months after September 1. Before the border was closed annual average exports were normally 400 to 500 thousand head. The cattle now available for export include a much larger proportion of 2 to 4 year old steers and fewer calves than in previous years. After the first year of renewed movement, however, fewer cattle will be available and the proportion of younger stock will increase.

Most of the steers to come in beginning in September will be in poor flesh and will move to grazing or feeding areas before being slaughtered.

Since January 1, 1951 the United States has permitted cured and pickled beef to enter this country from Mexico. During 1951, imports totaled approximately 43 million pounds. The United States will probably continue to receive pickled and cured and canned beef but at a rate below the 1951 level. After September 1, imports of fresh and frozen meats also will be permitted. However, the bulk of Mexican cattle are not finished sufficiently to produce carcass beef of the grades normally sold in the United States as fresh or frozen. It appears likely that future imports of meat from Mexico will include only small quantities of fresh or frozen beef.

Total Meat Production
Running Above 1951

Commercial production of meat in the first half of 1952 was 5 percent larger than a year earlier. (Table 3.) Production of pork was up 5 percent, of beef 5 percent, and of lamb and mutton 26 percent. Meat production in the second half of the year is continuing above a year earlier but the increase is made up almost entirely of beef. Production of pork will be smaller than in the second half of last year, and production of lamb and mutton will be at most only a little larger.

Production is up slightly more than the population and consumption per person is a little larger than last year. Consumption in the first half of the year was 2 pounds or 5 percent above the same half of 1951. (Table 4.) Consumption of all meat for 1952 as a whole is expected to exceed last year's 138 pounds by around 2 pounds.

Retail Prices of Beef
Below Last Year

A rise in production of meat has brought some decline in retail prices, and a larger decrease in prices of live animals at the farm. At New York in July, the wholesale price of steer beef was 7 percent less and the retail price was 5 percent less than year earlier. Prices of pork for each month of 1952 to date have been lower than a year before. However, with the supply recently shrinking, retail prices have crept up to very nearly their corresponding 1951 level. The price of lamb is a little above last year.

Prices of beef seem likely to decline in months ahead and to stay below 1951 prices. No great change is indicated for prices of lambs. Prices or pork will probably decrease seasonally this fall, and average a little higher than in corresponding periods last year.

A major reason for the greater decline in prices of live animals from last year than in prices of meat at retail is the lower value for by-products such as hides, pelts and lard. Another reason is the tendency of marketing charges and margins to increase. Within short time periods, marketing margins normally narrow when meat is scarce and prices high, particularly if controls are limiting retail prices. They tend to widen when meat is more plentiful and prices are declining. Margins in the last 2 years have behaved in this manner. Margins for beef and lamb are now wider than last year. Margins for pork were wide last winter but have narrowed more recently as hog slaughter has decreased and prices of some pork cuts have moved up to ceilings.

Table 3.- Commercial meat production, United States, by quarter-year, 1950 to first half 1952

Year	January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December	Year
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
			All meat		
1950	5,115	4,773	4,793	5,682	20,363
1951	5,181	4,699	4,692	5,647	20,219
1952	5,586	4,823			
			Beef		
1950	2,231	2,221	2,415	2,381	9,248
1951	2,188	1,965	2,140	2,256	8,549
1952	2,217	2,144			
			Veal		
1950	263	277	312	285	1,137
1951	220	216	271	265	972
1952	211	232			
			Lamb and mutton		
1950	150	139	149	143	581
1951	131	109	127	141	508
1952	157	145			
			Pork excluding lard		
1950	2,471	2,136	1,917	2,873	9,397
1951	2,642	2,409	2,154	2,985	10,190
1952	3,001	2,302			

Table 4.- Meat consumption per person, by quarter-year, 1950 to date

Period	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork 1/	Total
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1950					
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	1.9	1.0	18.4	36.9
Apr.-June	15.5	2.0	1.0	16.4	34.9
July-Sept.	16.2	2.1	1.0	14.9	34.2
Oct.-Dec.	15.7	2.0	0.9	18.9	37.5
Year	63.0	8.0	3.9	68.6	143.5
1951					
Jan.-Mar.	14.5	1.6	0.9	18.2	35.2
Apr.-June	13.2	1.5	.8	17.1	32.6
July-Sept.	14.6	1.8	.8	16.4	33.6
Oct.-Dec.	13.8	1.7	.9	19.8	36.2
Year	56.1	6.6	3.4	71.5	137.6
1952					
Jan.-Mar. 2/	14.3	1.5	1.0	19.5	36.3
Apr.-June 2/	14.4	1.5	1.0	16.8	33.7

1/ Excluding lard. 2/ Preliminary.

Seasonal Increase in Price
Ceilings for Pork

Somewhat higher prices for pork have been permitted since July 29 by a temporary increase in ceilings for certain cuts. A seasonal price increase was granted by OPS for ceilings on various pork cuts during the months through October. Ceiling increases range from about 1 cent per pound for pork shoulder at retail to 8 cents on chops, loins and spareribs.

Under Amendment 7 to Ceiling Price Regulation 101, wholesale ceilings of veal hindsaddles were increased and veal foresaddles lowered to widen the spread between these primal cuts. Retail ceilings on such cuts as veal steaks and cutlets were raised, and those on rib chops, shoulder cuts and breast of veal were reduced in line with changes in wholesale ceilings.

Price and Wage Controls
Extended 10 Months

The controls that apply to meat animals and meat were continued essentially unchanged by the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1952. Price and wage controls were extended to May 1, 1953 but other sections of the Act, including the provisions on registration of livestock slaughterers, were extended to July 1, 1953. The Amendments in general call for removal of certain restrictions and requirements, and set as an aim the further relaxation of controls.

Under the current provisions of the Act no restriction is to be placed upon the "species, type or grade of livestock killed by any slaughterer". For example, slaughterers who were formerly registered by the Office of Price Stabilization as hog slaughterers can handle slaughter cattle and sheep and lambs as well. The amendment providing for this change also forbids allocation of meat or meat products unless the Secretary of Agriculture certifies that the over-all supply of meat is inadequate to meet civilian or military needs. It is not now so certified.

Price reporting requirements were further lessened by an amendment stating that under certain conditions "no person shall be requested to furnish any report or other information with respect to sales of materials or services at prices which are below ceilings". Required filings to establish or revise ceilings and reports other than prices are presumably not changed by this amendment.

Few Changes in
Price Ceilings

Few actual changes in price ceilings were required by the amendments. Some relatively small changes may be made by the provision permitting higher ceiling prices for distributors affiliated with packing houses. The Capehart and Herlong amendments were made specifically applicable to agricultural products, but increases permitted under either of these amendments have to a large degree already been incorporated into price ceilings.

School Lunch Program to Receive Pork

During the rest of this year the school lunch program and other eligible outlets will receive about 26.5 million pounds of smoked pork products purchased by USDA this spring when hog prices were at their lowest point in nearly two years. The purchases, which include smoked skinned ham, smoked regular picnics and smoked bacon, were made for the purpose of diverting temporary burdensome supplies of pork at that time. Total purchases under the program, which was suspended May 20, amounted to about 13.5 million dollars.

Wool Crop Up 2 Percent

Production of shorn wool in 1952 is estimated at 229,750,000 pounds, 2 percent more than last year but except for the previous 3 crops the smallest since 1922. The increase over last year is entirely in the Native States.

Drought in Australia

Drought in Northern Australia this year was extremely severe. According to a report issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, this year's calf crop was a complete loss in much of the Northern Territory and losses of breeding cows have been heavy. Lack of rail transport in some areas and drying up of stock routes have prevented movement of cattle out of the area. Slaughter for domestic consumption and for export has been markedly reduced. The effect of the drought will be felt over the next 5 years.

New Zealand Ships Beef and Lamb to U.S.

New Zealand exports of meat began arriving in the United States in volume during August. The shipments were primarily beef diverted to the United States under an agreement between Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom whereby Canada would supply an equivalent amount of meat to the United Kingdom. This arrangement was agreed upon after entry of cattle, sheep and hogs and fresh or frozen meats from Canada into the United States was prohibited following an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Canada in February. In this way Canadian beef which in other years would be sent to the United States will go to Britain, and New Zealand beef otherwise destined for Britain will come to the United States. Approximately 60 million pounds of beef were expected to enter the United States from New Zealand during August and September. The shipments were to be largely frozen steer carcasses, with some cow carcasses and boneless meat included. Since most of these carcasses had already been cut, the Office of Price Stabilization amended its regulation (Amdts. 16 and 17 to CPR 24) to permit the sale of non-standard beef cuts from New Zealand.

Shipments of approximately 8 million pounds of lambs were made during August from New Zealand to the United States but were reshipped to the United Kingdom. Under a separate authorization by the United Kingdom Ministry of Food, approximately 11.2 million pounds of lamb and mutton are authorized for export to North America. Similar authorization was made in 1951 in an attempt to lay a foundation for permanent meat trade with the United States and Canada. However, only token shipments of lamb were made to these countries in 1951.

The shipping of New Zealand meat to the United States in any volume is a striking departure from normal trading practice. The extent of trading with New Zealand in the future will depend largely upon the availability of beef or lamb for export in countries competing for the United States market, and the acceptability to United States consumers. When the United States-Canadian border is again opened, foreign trade in meat is expected to resume its normal pattern. On August 19 the Canadian Minister of Agriculture announced that foot-and-mouth disease had been eradicated in Canada and lifted all bans on interprovincial movements of meat and meat animals. No official announcement had been made by the USDA as to a possible date for resumption of imports to the United States.

New Market Grades Adopted for Barrows and Gilts

Effective September 12 new Federal grade standards will be adopted for slaughter barrows and gilts and for barrow and gilt carcasses. The new grades, which were proposed October 6, 1951 are intended to provide a more accurate way of determining the market value for hogs. The proposed grades are Choice No. 1, Choice No. 2, Choice No. 3, Medium and Cull. All Choice grade hogs and carcasses would yield high quality pork cuts. Choice No. 1 has a relatively high ratio of lean to fat. Choice No. 2 and 3 have lower ratios. Medium and Cull grades are underfinished. (See Livestock and Meat Situation, Nov.-Dec. 1951)

REPORTS OF CATTLE ON FEED

By Arnold V. Nordquist

Head, Division of Livestock and Poultry Statistics

The Agricultural Estimates Branch of BAE issues quarterly reports of numbers of cattle on feed in major areas and, in more detail, on numbers on feed in Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska. In November it issues a special report on the cattle feeding situation.

Cattle feeding in the United States is a variable enterprise. Feeding programs vary by regions and areas because of different feed resources and different kinds of cattle and calves available for feeding. Moreover, feeding programs change over longer periods of time because of variations in supplies of feed, supplies of feeder cattle and calves, prices of feed and cattle, and alternative opportunities of producing livestock or selling feed grains and concentrates.

Even more diversity appears in individual operations in cattle feeding. They range from a few head as a side line operation to large feed lots operating on a year round basis, handling thousands of cattle and equipped with mechanical devices that permit mass production on an "assembly line" basis. These "beef factories" have lately been receiving more than usual publicity. They have been expanding in recent years, especially in the western half of the country. Nevertheless, the bulk of the cattle and calves fattened for market today in the United States come from the farms and feedlots of operators that each handle about a carload of cattle during the season. Available information indicates that there are in the neighborhood of 300,000 cattle feeders in the country. The average number of cattle and calves placed on feed for market during a feeding season is currently somewhat less than 30 head per cattle feeder.

The level of the country's feeding operations is not tied very closely to trends in cattle raising. In other words, inventories of cattle on feed do not necessarily rise and fall with the cyclical movements in beef cattle numbers. Holding back cattle and calves for building beef herds reduced the current supply available for feeding purposes, but increases the supply of potential feeder cattle. Feed supplies, quality of the corn crop, prospective prices for slaughter cattle, price spreads between feeder and fat cattle and the profitability of feeding in the previous season all help to determine the demand for feeder cattle and help dictate the trends in cattle feeding. Depending on these influences the number of cattle on feed will vary from year to year. A review of the January 1 inventory numbers of cattle on feed shows that the number has ranged from a low of 2.2 million head following the 1934 drought to a high of 5.1 million head in 1952. January 1 numbers on feed during the 1945-50 period ranged between 4.2 and 4.6 million head except for 1948 when the inventory dropped to 3.8 million head.

No official estimates of the number of cattle fed during a season are available for the U. S. as a whole. However, indications are that the number fed during the feeding year has been increasing. This increase has not been entirely reflected by the number on feed January 1 since the January 1 number is a much smaller proportion of the total number of cattle fed for market now than it was ten years ago. Year-around feeding is becoming more common, especially with the larger operators.

Nevertheless, there are marked seasonal changes in numbers put on feed during the year. Feed lots are always filled at a heavy rate during the October-December period. Placements during this quarter are more than double those of any other quarter. The number of cattle going into feed lots declines sharply after January 1 reaching a low point during the April-June period when they are far below the October-December peak.

Following the seasonally large number moving into feed lots during October-December, the January 1 inventory is about the peak for the year. Marketings in the first quarter of the year are somewhat larger than the rate of replacements so that April 1 inventories of cattle on feed are slightly lower than on January 1. Marketings exceed replacements by a substantial margin in April to June and the July inventory drops considerably.

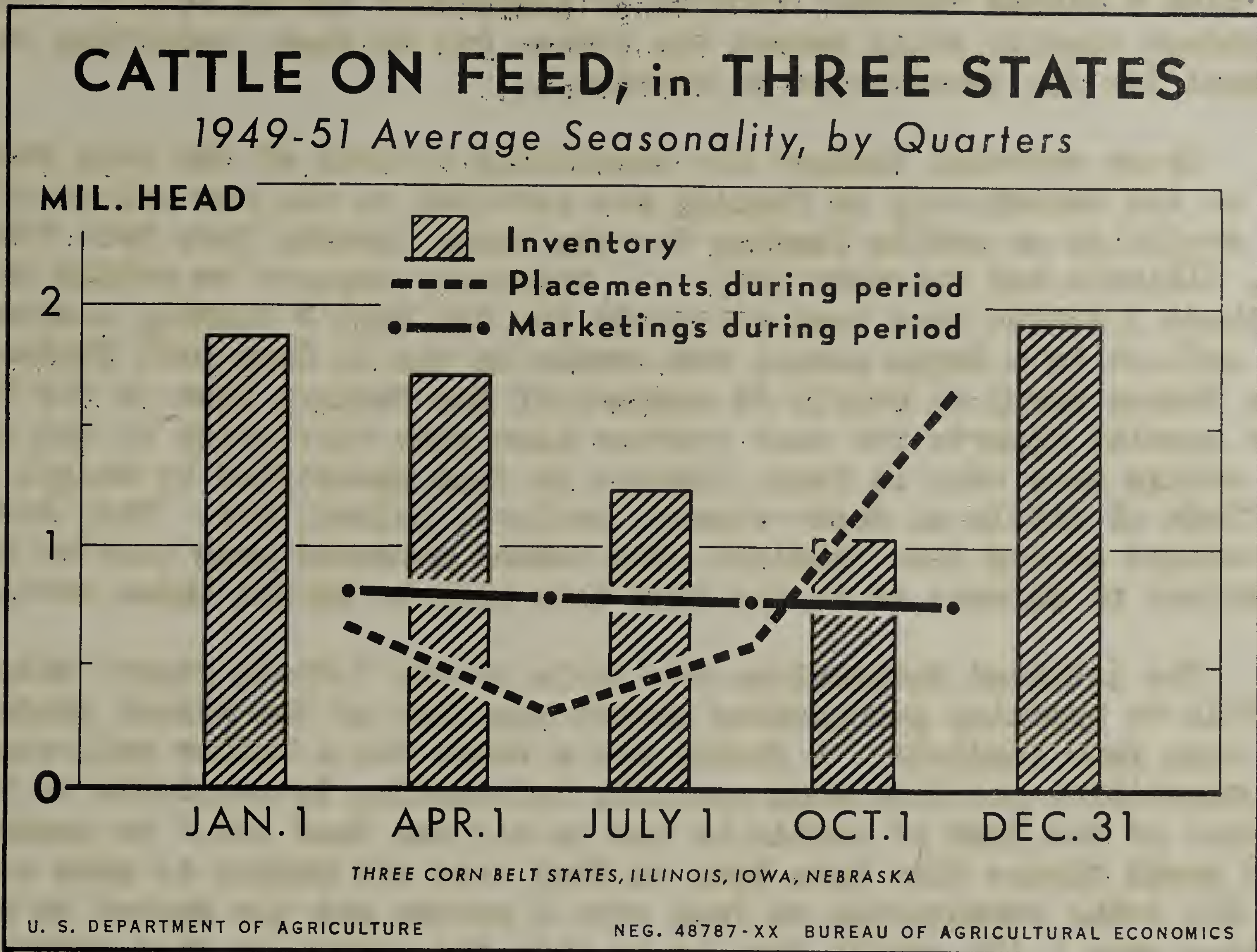


FIGURE 1

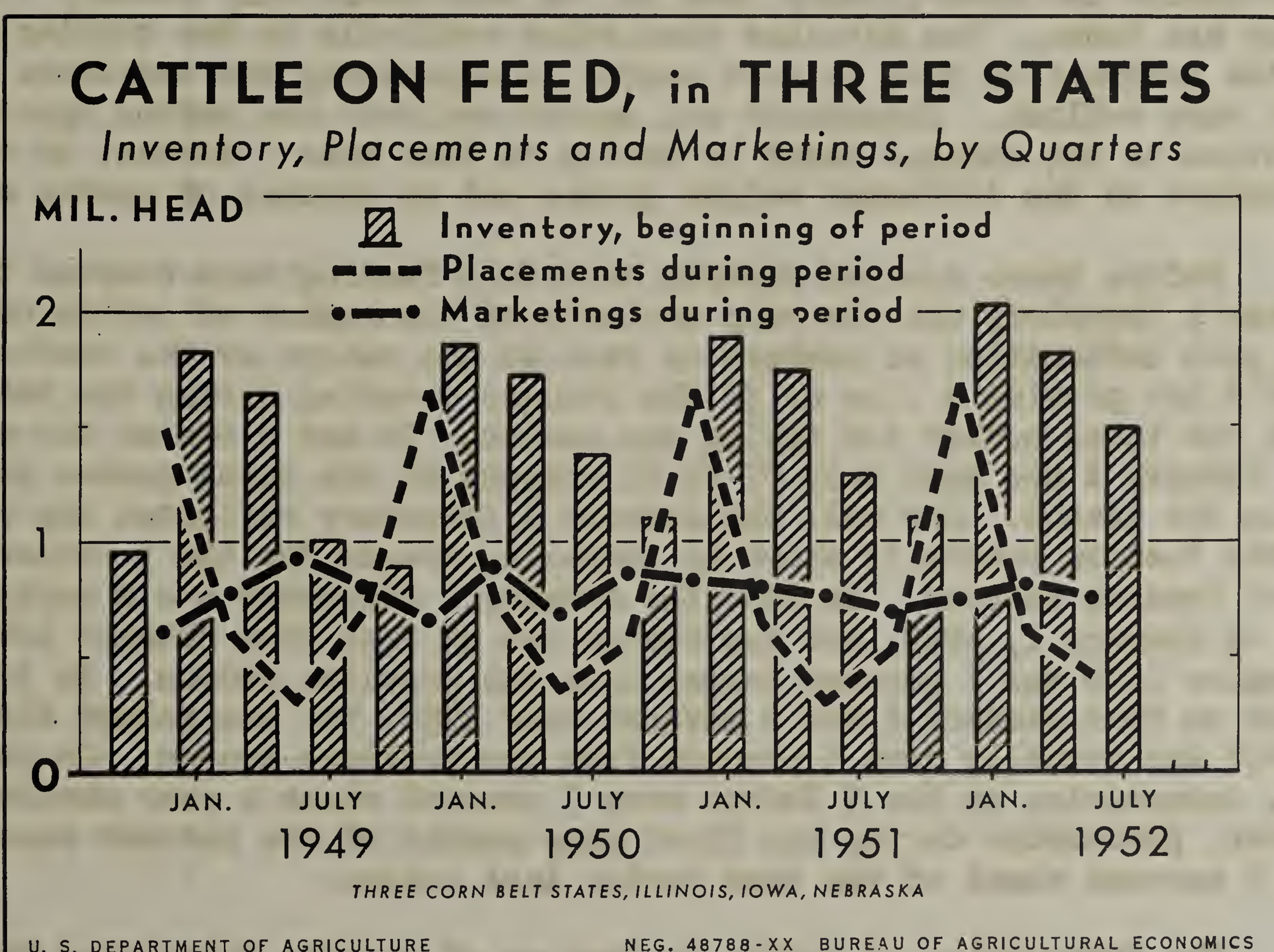


FIGURE 2

Even with a marked seasonal pick-up in placements during July to September, marketings usually still exceed the number put on feed, resulting in a seasonal low for inventories on October 1.

These seasonal changes are especially typical of the Corn Belt. Data on the seasonality in feeding are revealed in the new series of statistics available on cattle feeding for the three leading Corn Belt States--Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska (Fig. 1). Quarterly reports on cattle on feed for these 3 States have been available for the last 4 feeding seasons. They reflect to a large extent the trends in the 11 Corn Belt States, since these States carry on nearly 60 percent of the feeding done in the Corn Belt. These special reports for each quarter also show statistics on the length of time cattle have been on feed, numbers on feed classified by weight groups and kinds of cattle on feed--steers, heifers, calves, etc. They also show the numbers moving into feedlots, the number marketed each quarter and the intentions of farmers as to the time they plan to market these cattle.

The detailed information available in the 3-State report makes it possible to appraise prospective market supplies of the higher grade cattle that come from feedlots. A feeder has a basis for a better understanding of his competitive position when specific information is available on total supplies of the kind of cattle he has in his own feed lot. An operator with 1,200 pound steers that have been on feed over six months is more concerned with the total inventories on feed over 6 months and the number on hand weighing over 1,100 pounds than he is with the number on feed under 3 months or the changes in the number of calves on feed. Total inventories of all kinds of cattle and calves on feed are important in evaluating the longer term outlook. Quarterly figures on inventories make it possible to watch developments far more closely than is the case where only January 1 inventories are known. The detailed statistics available in the quarter reports provide information that is most useful in appraising the immediate and short term outlook. Economists and market analysts are paying special attention to the changes shown in cattle on feed over 3 months, to changes in numbers in the different weight groups and to classes of cattle on feed.

Before these special reports on cattle feeding were started the January 1 inventory was the only estimate of the number of cattle on feed. This gave information on numbers on feed at the height of the feeding season but did not provide a clue as to the changes occuring during the season or on the total number fed during the season. In the 3 States the number on feed January 1 has been only 57 to 61 percent of the total number placed during the season. How well the January 1 inventory reflected the volume for the feeding season is shown by comparing trends for the 3 States in the 3 past feeding seasons. In 1950 the January 1 inventory was 2 percent larger than on January 1, 1949, but the number put on feed from October 1949 to September 1950 was 7 percent larger than the previous season. In 1951 the number on feed January 1 was 2 percent over 1950, but the volume fed in 1950-51 was actually down 5 percent from the previous season. On January 1, 1952, inventories in the 3 States were 7 percent above a year earlier. However, placements during the first nine months of the current season were only 4 percent ahead of the same period last season.

The inventories of cattle on feed as of certain dates also depend on the rate of replacements and the rate of marketings. As the chart (Figure 2) shows there has been no fixed pattern that marketings seem to follow each season.

Marketings do not change much from quarter to quarter. This evenness offsets variations in placements and levels out the supply of beef during the year. Possibly the last 3 feeding seasons do not reflect the usual seasonal movements. The Korean situation, price inflation and price control have had considerable effect on the marketing pattern. The soft corn situation last fall and winter resulted in heavy shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the Corn Belt to utilize damaged corn. This is still a factor in the outlook for marketing fed cattle in the months ahead. Records by months of beef steers for slaughter at 3 markets (Chicago, Omaha and Sioux City), indicate a seasonal peak for better grade cattle occuring during May and a seasonal low in December. If a "normal" is to be selected, perhaps marketings of fed cattle by quarters would most nearly follow the 1948-94 season. It may be of little value to adopt a concept of "normal" in view of the impact of various influences on marketings over the past 4 seasons, and the different conditions and new combinations of factors that will affect the feeding business in the future.

The July 1, 1952 report for the 3 States showed total cattle on feed to be 16 percent above the number on feed a year earlier. On April 1, 1952 numbers were 4 percent above the corresponding date a year earlier. The relative gain in inventories this season resulted from heavy placements between April 1 and June 30, since marketings of fed cattle were about the same as a year ago. The July 1 inventory showed a rather interesting make-up in the length of time cattle were on feed. Reflecting the large placements during the April-June period, the number on feed less than three months was up 43 percent. The number on feed 3 to 6 months was down about 2 percent. The number on feed over 6 months was 28 percent above the number on July 1, 1951. Most of these cattle were put on feed during the October-December period of 1951. However, placements in October-December of the current season were only 2 percent larger than in the corresponding months of the preceding season. The relatively low number of long-fed cattle on feed July 1, 1951, resulted from heavy marketings in advance of a scheduled roll-back in cattle prices.

These statistics on July 1, 1952, inventories pointed to a relatively large increase in marketings of fed cattle during July and August; some tapering off in September and October with marketings not greatly different than for the same months in 1951. Some increases over last year could come later, depending on the volume of short feeding. More indications for the late months will be available in the October 1 report.

The average weight of cattle on feed July 1 indicates the immediate supply of better quality cattle on feed. The number on feed weighing over 1,100 pounds was up 26 percent from a year earlier. The longer feeding season this year again shows up in the 36 percent increase in numbers on feed weighing 900-1,100 pounds. That there were fewer calves fed this season than last shows up in the inventories of lighter weight cattle and in the kinds of cattle on feed.

Table 5.- Cattle on feed in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska: Inventory, placements and marketings, by quarters, October 1948 to date

Quarter	On feed at beginning of quarter: Length of time previously fed: 0-3 months	3-6 months	more than 6 months	Total number	Movement during quarter: Placed on feed	Marketed	On feed at end of quarter
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1948							
Oct.-Dec.	647	166	136	949	1,483	606	1,826
1949							
Jan.-March	1,374	397	55	1,826	583	765	1,644
Apr.-June	527	1,040	77	1,644	286	923	1,006
July-Sept	214	409	383	1,006	698	809	895
Oct.-Dec.	626	133	136	895	1,635	666	1,864
1950							
Jan.-March	1,541	290	33	1,864	744	881	1,727
Apr.-June	667	994	66	1,727	347	686	1,388
July-Sept	289	614	485	1,388	536	844	1,080
Oct.-Dec.	496	240	344	1,080	1,641	827	1,894
1951							
Jan.-March	1,555	286	53	1,894	648	796	1,746
Apr.-June	578	1,119	49	1,746	289	751	1,284
July-Sept	245	644	395	1,284	522	684	1/1,102
Oct.-Dec.	493	262	347	1,102	1,668	741	2,029
1952							
Jan.-March	1,602	346	81	2,029	604	810	1,823
Apr.-June	565	1,180	78	1,823	407	740	1,490
July-Sept	351	634	505	1,490			
1949-51 Average							
Jan.-March	1,490	324	47	1,861	658	814	1,706
Apr.-June	591	1,051	64	1,706	307	787	1,226
July-Sept	249	556	421	1,226	585	779	1/1,026
Oct.-Dec.	538	212	276	1,026	1,648	745	1,929

1/ Does not balance because of minor revisions to be made in data.

NEW OR REVISED SERIES

Tables 6 to 10 present revisions of tables carried in the statistical appendixes to this Situation published in February 1951 and 1952.

Table 6.- Retail value of meat consumed compared with disposable personal income, by years, 1940 to date

Year	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/: Value	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/: Index number, 1935-39=100	Disposable personal income per person 3/: Value	Disposable personal income per person 3/: Index number, 1935-39=100	Retail value of meat as percentage of disposable income
	Cents	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1940	22.9	28.40	97.6	569	111.6	5.0
1941	26.8	33.30	114.4	686	134.5	4.9
1942 4/	31.4	37.90	130.2	860	168.6	4.4
1943 4/	31.9	40.80	140.2	963	188.8	4.2
1944 4/	30.2	40.70	139.9	1,055	206.9	3.8
1945 4/	30.3	37.45	128.7	1,073	210.4	3.5
1946 4/	38.3	51.13	175.7	1,117	219.0	4.6
1947	56.1	74.86	257.3	1,169	229.2	6.4
1948	62.5	78.29	269.0	1,277	250.4	6.1
1949	56.8	70.69	242.9	1,248	244.7	5.7
1950	59.3	73.73	253.4	1,347	264.1	5.5
1951	65.9	78.89	271.1	1,450	284.3	5.4

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts. Note that this weights the price for each meat in each year by the quantity consumed in that year, and that lard is excluded.
2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each meat consumed per civilian consumer.
3/ Computed from income date of U. S. Department of Commerce, 1929-51.
4/ Data affected by wartime controls.
See The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1950 for earlier data.

Table 7 .- Number of cattle and calves on farms, calf crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand, January 1: All cattle	On hand, January 1: All cows 2 years and over	Calves born: Percentage of cows 2 years and over	Calves born: Number	Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/: Cattle	Marketings 3/: Calves	Farm slaughter: Cattle	Farm slaughter: Calves	Deaths: Cattle	Deaths: Calves	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	61,003	32,194	78	25,087	5,145	15,232	8,662	487	677	1,203	1,944	13,263
1931	63,030	33,629	77	26,056	4,729	15,021	8,475	520	755	1,328	1,915	13,386
1932	65,801	35,335	78	27,568	4,499	14,569	8,170	717	792	1,349	1,991	14,232
1933	70,280	37,282	78	28,935	4,978	15,928	8,852	790	842	1,372	2,040	15,405
1934 4/	74,369	39,609	76	30,240	4,419	23,325	11,450	828	985	1,437	2,157	14,538
1935 4/	68,846	37,233	74	27,473	5,259	19,041	9,363	632	866	1,561	2,268	13,651
1936	67,847	36,244	78	28,201	4,990	19,991	10,029	613	888	1,349	2,070	14,438
1937	66,098	35,331	79	28,033	5,111	18,854	10,298	570	785	1,405	2,081	13,746
1938	65,249	34,598	80	27,787	5,635	18,552	9,560	569	725	1,308	1,928	14,047
1939	66,029	34,587	83	28,879	6,416	18,380	10,076	571	755	1,298	1,935	15,177
1940	68,309	35,616	84	29,886	7,026	18,413	10,365	571	728	1,397	1,992	15,702
1941	71,755	36,819	87	31,868	7,185	18,948	11,001	571	684	1,461	2,118	17,029
1942	76,025	38,891	88	34,388	8,514	20,740	11,787	646	641	1,560	2,349	18,568
1943	81,204	41,118	85	34,797	7,442	21,310	11,177	708	620	1,734	2,560	19,159
1944	85,334	43,225	86	37,040	7,233	23,627	14,323	854	724	1,734	2,772	19,708
1945	85,573	44,226	79	35,155	8,257	27,541	13,222	919	753	1,637	2,678	19,517
1946	82,235	42,929	81	34,643	8,774	26,267	13,026	943	766	1,549	2,547	18,999
1947	80,554	42,330	82	34,703	8,302	26,981	13,893	871	713	1,464	2,466	19,130
1948	77,171	40,625	82	33,125	7,595	23,417	12,607	791	611	1,388	2,247	18,402
1949	76,830	39,781	85	33,748	8,079	22,905	12,627	752	570	1,507	2,333	19,274
1950	77,963	40,596	86	34,846	8,869	22,684	11,975	723	531	1,441	2,299	20,488
1951	82,025	42,118	85	35,622	9,270	22,518	11,250	724	495	1,535	2,333	21,692
1952	88,062	44,015										

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of calf crop, inshipments and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases.
For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 20.
Revises and brings to date table A-5 of the February 1951 issue.

Table 8 .- Number of hogs on farms, pig crops and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States, 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Pigs saved		Inshipments 2/	Marketings 3/	Farm slaughter	Deaths	Live weight of farm production
		Spring	Fall					
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	55,705	49,332	24,803	477	53,796	13,540	8,146	15,176
1931	54,835	53,984	29,192	1,366	55,972	14,338	9,766	16,541
1932	59,301	51,031	31,494	477	55,844	15,580	8,752	16,368
1933 4/	62,127	53,460	30,740	1,454	65,661	15,244	8,253	16,566
1934	58,621	39,698	17,068	1,237	55,750	15,110	6,698	12,385
1935	39,066	32,884	23,260	481	32,749	13,348	6,619	10,673
1936	42,975	41,422	24,303	639	44,809	14,295	7,152	12,976
1937	43,083	38,525	23,994	367	40,665	13,333	7,446	12,506
1938	44,525	43,289	28,566	516	46,089	13,325	7,470	14,372
1939	50,012	53,238	33,714	637	52,906	13,980	9,550	17,079
1940	61,165	49,584	30,282	607	64,262	14,155	8,868	17,043
1941	54,353	49,368	35,584	741	57,695	12,789	8,955	17,489
1942	60,607	61,093	43,810	600	67,423	12,533	12,273	21,105
1943	73,881	74,223	47,584	771	83,187	14,016	15,515	25,375
1944	83,741	55,754	30,905	658	86,289	13,551	11,845	20,584
1945	59,373	52,216	34,611	464	61,035	13,631	10,692	18,843
1946	61,306	52,191	30,503	464	64,409	13,721	9,544	18,744
1947	56,810	52,199	31,090	497	63,499	12,072	10,435	18,159
1948	54,590	50,468	33,358	459	61,790	11,200	9,628	18,222
1949	56,257	56,969	36,275	541	69,249	10,236	11,705	19,457
1950	58,852	57,935	39,404	580	71,969	9,720	12,230	20,001
1951	62,852	62,007	40,182	755	79,361	9,520	12,962	21,349
1952	63,903	56,607	5/36,500					

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of pig crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipment and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases. 5/ Indicated by farmers' intentions on June 1 at average size of litters as adjusted for trend. Revises and brings to date table A-6 of the February 1951 issue.

For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation for February 1949, page 21.

Table 9 .- Number of sheep and lambs on farms, lamb crop and disposition, and live weight of farm production, United States 1930 to date 1/

Year	On hand January 1	Lambs saved: Number	Lambs saved: Percent of ewes 1 year and over	Inshipments 2/: Sheep	Inshipments 2/: Lambs	Marketings 3/: Sheep	Marketings 3/: Lambs	Farm slaughter: Sheep	Farm slaughter: Lambs	Deaths: Sheep	Deaths: Lambs	Live weight of farm production
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds
1930	51,565	29,467	85	925	5,886	3,212	24,144	222	252	4,149	2,631	1,965
1931	53,233	31,557	86	837	7,546	4,356	26,862	290	301	4,472	2,990	2,052
1932	53,902	29,986	81	517	5,438	2,943	25,017	338	386	5,467	2,638	1,829
1933	53,054	29,768	80	771	6,184	2,825	25,178	352	414	5,106	2,399	1,860
1934 4/	53,503	30,433	82	887	6,956	7,013	25,079	354	436	4,426	2,663	1,911
1935	51,808	27,813	79	1,018	6,452	4,560	23,796	342	338	4,218	2,701	1,835
1936	51,136	29,762	84	666	6,037	4,627	24,206	305	332	4,373	2,910	1,852
1937	50,848	29,170	84	742	6,564	4,579	24,245	295	303	4,172	2,667	1,932
1938	51,063	30,420	88	862	6,606	4,565	25,767	295	315	3,891	2,770	2,038
1939	51,348	29,913	86	1,107	6,839	4,415	25,459	292	305	3,951	2,678	2,029
1940	52,107	31,082	87	1,060	7,186	4,384	25,846	272	299	3,910	2,804	2,101
1941	53,920	32,610	90	935	7,440	4,231	26,510	292	290	4,191	3,178	2,251
1942	56,213	32,312	86	828	8,020	6,064	28,598	291	287	4,029	2,954	2,313
1943	55,150	30,924	83	639	7,624	7,818	27,505	289	287	4,350	3,306	2,108
1944	50,782	28,642	84	576	6,844	7,362	25,349	279	283	4,095	2,956	1,938
1945	46,520	27,042	86	601	6,994	7,333	24,983	274	297	3,418	2,490	1,912
1946	42,362	24,489	89	737	6,718	6,758	24,088	265	289	3,125	2,283	1,762
1947	37,498	21,858	88	652	5,910	5,224	20,937	229	270	2,845	2,076	1,567
1948	34,337	19,594	85	627	5,486	4,828	18,947	213	261	2,916	1,936	1,383
1949	30,943	18,298	87	721	5,242	3,473	16,784	177	227	2,898	1,819	1,278
1950	29,826	17,905	89	728	5,916	2,627	16,446	177	215	2,558	1,717	1,331
1951	30,635	17,989	88	751	5,712	3,295	15,480	147	196	2,514	1,730	1,349
1952	31,725	18,401	88									

1/ Balance sheet estimates. Total of marketings, farm slaughter, deaths, and on hand end of year equals total of lamb crop, inshipments, and on hand beginning of year. 2/ Sum of the interstate shipments and imports of feeding and breeding animals. 3/ Excludes interfarm sales within States. 4/ Includes Government purchases.
For data for 1924-29 see Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 22.
Revises and brings to date table A-7 of the February 1951 issue.

Table 10.- Live weight of marketings, cash receipts from marketings, and gross income from meat animals, by classes, 1930-51

Year	Live weight of mktgs. 1/ Cattle and calves	Live weight of mktgs. 1/ Sheep and lambs	Live weight of mktgs. 1/ Hogs	Meat animal mktgs., Index no., 1935-39=100 2/	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 3/ Cattle and calves	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 3/ Sheep and lambs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 3/ Hogs	Cash receipts from marketings 1/ 3/ All meat animals	Gross income 3/ 4/ Cattle and calves	Gross income 3/ 4/ Sheep and lambs	Gross income 3/ 4/ Hogs	Gross income 3/ 4/ All meat animals
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1930	14,653	2,206	12,221	---	1,184	162	1,135	2,481	1,204	163	1,369	2,736
1931	14,438	2,505	12,801	---	838	130	774	1,742	854	132	950	1,936
1932	13,960	2,222	12,505	---	621	93	445	1,159	635	95	557	1,287
1933	15,165	2,226	13,282	---	599	105	524	1,228	614	107	631	1,352
1934	20,350	2,555	11,878	---	813	132	520	1,465	828	134	646	1,608
1935	17,037	2,316	7,330	89	1,062	152	682	1,896	1,084	155	890	2,129
1936	18,318	2,314	9,973	103	1,114	166	991	2,271	1,134	168	1,234	2,536
1937	17,051	2,321	9,146	96	1,239	186	925	2,350	1,261	188	1,161	2,610
1938	17,057	2,460	10,638	102	1,162	157	870	2,189	1,184	159	1,065	2,408
1939	17,385	2,431	12,327	110	1,290	172	810	2,272	1,312	174	981	2,467
1940	17,529	2,448	14,837	120	1,376	180	836	2,392	1,400	182	984	2,566
1941	18,628	2,563	13,765	119	1,705	226	1,302	3,233	1,732	229	1,518	3,479
1942	20,472	2,925	16,300	135	2,263	306	2,198	4,767	2,300	309	2,507	5,116
1943	20,866	3,042	20,748	154	2,562	342	2,929	5,833	2,606	346	3,302	6,254
1944	23,117	2,801	20,825	161	2,604	300	2,800	5,704	2,652	304	3,133	6,089
1945	26,675	2,842	15,494	151	3,318	319	2,263	5,900	3,375	323	2,640	6,338
1946	25,270	2,694	15,984	148	3,761	363	2,917	7,041	3,833	367	3,400	7,600
1947	26,099	2,278	15,722	149	4,967	402	3,926	9,295	5,054	406	4,523	9,983
1948	25,105	2,083	15,280	137	5,285	409	3,660	9,354	5,381	414	4,202	9,997
1949	23,593	1,777	16,747	144	4,849	351	3,125	8,325	4,932	355	3,513	8,800
1950	23,610	1,683	17,230	147	5,677	386	3,184	9,247	5,773	391	3,539	9,703
1951	23,399	1,669	19,052	150	6,937	467	3,904	11,308	7,055	472	4,291	11,818

1/ Excludes interfarm sales. 2/ Index numbers of physical volume of farm marketings. 3/ Does not include Government payments. 4/ Cash receipts plus value of home consumption.

For data for 1924-29 see The Livestock and Meat Situation, February 1949, page 29.

Revises and brings to date table A-16 of the February 1951 issue.

Digest of OPA and NPA Regulations Affecting
Meat and Meat Animals

This list supplements those appearing in earlier issues of this Situation. These lists are compiled for their reference value now and in the future. Questions regarding the application of the regulations should be referred to the Agency administering them.

Issued by the Office of Price Stabilization, Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
Delegation of Authority 11 Revision 1 Amendment 1 Issued August 5, 1952 Effective August 5, 1952	Delegates authority to OPS field offices to permit class 2 slaughterers in areas affected by vesicular exanthema to have their hogs slaughtered by class 1 slaughterers.
Distribution Regulation 1 Revision 1 Amendment 2 Issued June 23, 1952 Effective June 23, 1952	Permits registration of new class 2 slaughterers slaughtering only for farmers.
Distribution Regulation 1 Revision 1 Amendment 3 Issued July 21, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Permits all persons registered to slaughter, or have slaughtered, one or more species of livestock to slaughter, or have slaughtered, all species of livestock.
Distribution Regulation 3 Amendment 1 Issued August 14, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Limits the applicability of DR3 to periods of inadequate over-all supply of meats and meat products.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 13 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Provides identical beef ceiling prices for packer-affiliated or independent hotel supply houses. Sets up the same ceiling price for packer-affiliated or independent combination distributors.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 14 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Provides for identical ceiling prices for independent wholesalers and packer-affiliated wholesalers whose affiliation does not amount to an interest or equity of more than 50 percent.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 15 Issued July 11, 1952 Effective July 16, 1952	Eases previous restrictions on wholesale sales of prefabricated cuts of beef, and makes several other changes in the wholesale beef regulation.

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 16 Issued August 4, 1952 Effective August 4, 1952	Permits the sale of non-standard beef hindquarters and forequarters imported from New Zealand. Also permits the sale of ungraded New Zealand boneless beef subject to certain conditions.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 17 Issued August 21, 1952 Effective August 21, 1952	Permits the sale of non-standard wholesale cuts of beef imported from New Zealand.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1 Interpretation 4 Issued July 23, 1952 Effective July 23, 1952	Interprets permissable additions in establishing a retail ceiling price of primal beef cuts.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1 Interpretation 5 Issued July 23, 1952 Effective July 23, 1952	Restates that pricing requirements on non-graded or improperly cut beef does not eliminate the requirements of grading and grademarking.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 8 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Revises wholesale pork ceiling prices for packer-affiliated hotel supply houses and combination distributors. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 13.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 9 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Revises wholesale pork ceilings for certain packer-affiliated wholesalers. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 14.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 10 Issued July 18, 1952 Effective July 18, 1952	Modifies the limitations on sales of prefabricated cuts, and makes several other changes in the wholesale pork ceilings.
Ceiling Price Regulations 74 Amendment 11 Issued July 29, 1952 Effective July 29, 1952	Authorizes higher seasonal ceiling prices for some lean cuts of pork, and makes a number of technical changes in the regulation.
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 7 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Revises wholesale lamb, yearling and mutton ceiling prices for packer-affiliated hotel supply houses and combination distributors. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 13.)

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-July 1951	Jan.-July 1952	1951 July	1952 June	1952 July	1952 August
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	38.80	36.29	37.37	34.63	34.55	
Choice	do.	36.00	34.10	35.47	32.81	33.03	
Good	do.	33.41	31.41	33.05	30.74	30.45	
Commercial	do.	31.06	28.48	30.00	28.18	27.51	
Utility	do.	28.55	25.69	27.23	25.68	23.53	
All grades	do.	35.38	33.27	35.75	32.22	32.53	
Omaha, all grades	do.	34.05	31.75	34.15	30.48	31.28	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	34.16	31.67	34.53	30.34	31.25	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	27.81	24.10	28.50	24.01	22.09	
Utility	do.	24.99	21.83	24.21	21.39	19.95	
Canner and Cutter	do.	21.49	18.90	21.04	18.57	16.76	
Vealers, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	37.75	36.36	37.45	34.95	32.68	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	33.68	30.15	31.61	27.21	25.24	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	29.21	27.26	29.00	26.70	26.00	
Veal calves	do.	32.71	30.94	32.20	30.70	28.80	
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	21.38	18.52	22.21	20.04	21.63	
180-200 pounds	do.	22.14	19.36	23.03	20.95	22.58	
200-220 pounds	do.	22.25	19.42	23.17	20.96	22.63	
220-240 pounds	do.	22.13	19.17	22.90	20.69	22.35	
240-270 pounds	do.	21.83	18.67	22.28	20.11	21.66	
270-300 pounds	do.	21.35	18.11	21.36	19.42	20.80	
All weights	do.	21.80	18.75	22.50	20.41	21.91	
Eight markets 3/	do.	21.53	18.57	22.15	20.33	21.59	
Sows, Chicago	do.	18.96	16.26	18.35	17.37	18.13	
Price received by farmers	do.	20.79	18.16	20.50	19.40	20.00	
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.4	10.2	12.8	11.2	12.1	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	12.9	10.8	12.6	11.2	11.6	
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	19.73	12.58	14.88	9.21	7.87	
Price received by farmers	do.	17.26	12.57	15.70	11.60	10.10	
Lambs							
Slaughter, Choice and Prime, Chicago	do.	36.54	28.93	31.90	29.25	29.27	
Price received by farmers	do.	32.49	26.37	30.20	25.80	25.50	
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		418	378	414	380	376	
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	56.08	54.71	56.50	53.49	53.60	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	56.42	56.85	58.00	58.45	59.62	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	23.64	20.01	23.96	21.01	22.03	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.45	27.47	32.89	28.84	30.24	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	26.34	23.24	26.09	24.35	25.38	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	36.93	32.59	36.58	34.14	35.59	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Choice grade	per pound	84.6	87.0	84.8	86.3	85.7	
Lamb	do.	76.0	76.7	77.8	76.8	79.8	
Pork, including lard	do.	45.1	40.7	45.4	41.8	41.9	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1947-49=100)		118.6	112.9	119.5	112.4	113.1	
Retail (1935-39=100)		5/271.5	271.9	274.2	275.9	274.1	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan. - July		1951	1952		
		1951	1952	July	June	July	August
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		136	143	128	131	124	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	993	1,054	173	152	185	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,069	932	168	133	176	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	6,599	7,022	920	966	1,100	
Calves	do.	2,889	2,737	408	392	430	
Sheep and lambs	do.	5,524	6,718	863	926	908	
Hogs	do.	34,327	36,054	3,826	4,259	3,641	
Percentage sows	Percent	11	10	33	20	29	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	1,002	1,002	978	988	987	
Calves	do.	189	201	233	225	236	
Sheep and lambs	do.	100	100	93	94	90	
Hogs	do.	250	246	276	255	265	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	557	560	550	554	550	
Veal, per head	do.	108	115	133	127	133	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	48	48	44	45	43	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	139	136	151	142	145	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	55	55	55	56	55	
Lard, per head	do.	37	37	41	38	39	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	15	15	15	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	3,656	3,914	503	533	602	
Veal	do.	309	312	54	50	57	
Lamb and mutton	do.	261	319	38	41	39	
Pork 2/	do.	4,737	4,867	577	601	526	
Lard	do.	1,264	1,342	157	160	142	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000	9,056	---	1,287	1,316	---	
Cattle	head	4,835	---	665	650	---	
Calves	do.	6,019	---	951	1,032	---	
Sheep and lambs	do.	42,181	---	4,670	5,253	---	
Hogs	do.						
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	4,829	---	676	699	---	
Veal	do.	522	---	86	83	---	
Lamb and mutton	do.	282	---	42	46	---	
Pork 2/	do.	5,737	---	686	727	---	
Lard	do.	1,457	---	179	185	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	90	213	190	162
Veal	do.	---	---	6	11	12	10
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	5	16	15	12
Pork	do.	---	---	572	728	685	547
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	778	1,095	1,029	856

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

Penalty for private use to avoid payment of postage $300

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

BAE-LMS-61-8/52-5300
Permit No. 1001

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 92 Amendment 8 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Revises wholesale lamb, yearling and mutton ceilings for certain packer-affilicated wholesalers. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 14.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 5 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Revises wholesale veal ceiling prices for packer-affiliated hotel supply houses and combination distributors. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 13.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 6 Issued July 8, 1952 Effective July 1, 1952	Revises wholesale veal ceiling prices for certain packer-affiliated wholesalers. (See CPR 24, Amdt. 14.)
Ceiling Price Regulation 101 Amendment 7 Issued July 18, 1952 Effective July 23, 1952	Revises wholesale ceiling prices of veal to increase the spread between ceilings on veal hindsaddles and foresaddles, and makes other technical changes.
General Overriding Regulation 4 Revision 1 Amendment 6 Issued August 7, 1952 Effective August 7, 1952	Removes scrap leather from price control.

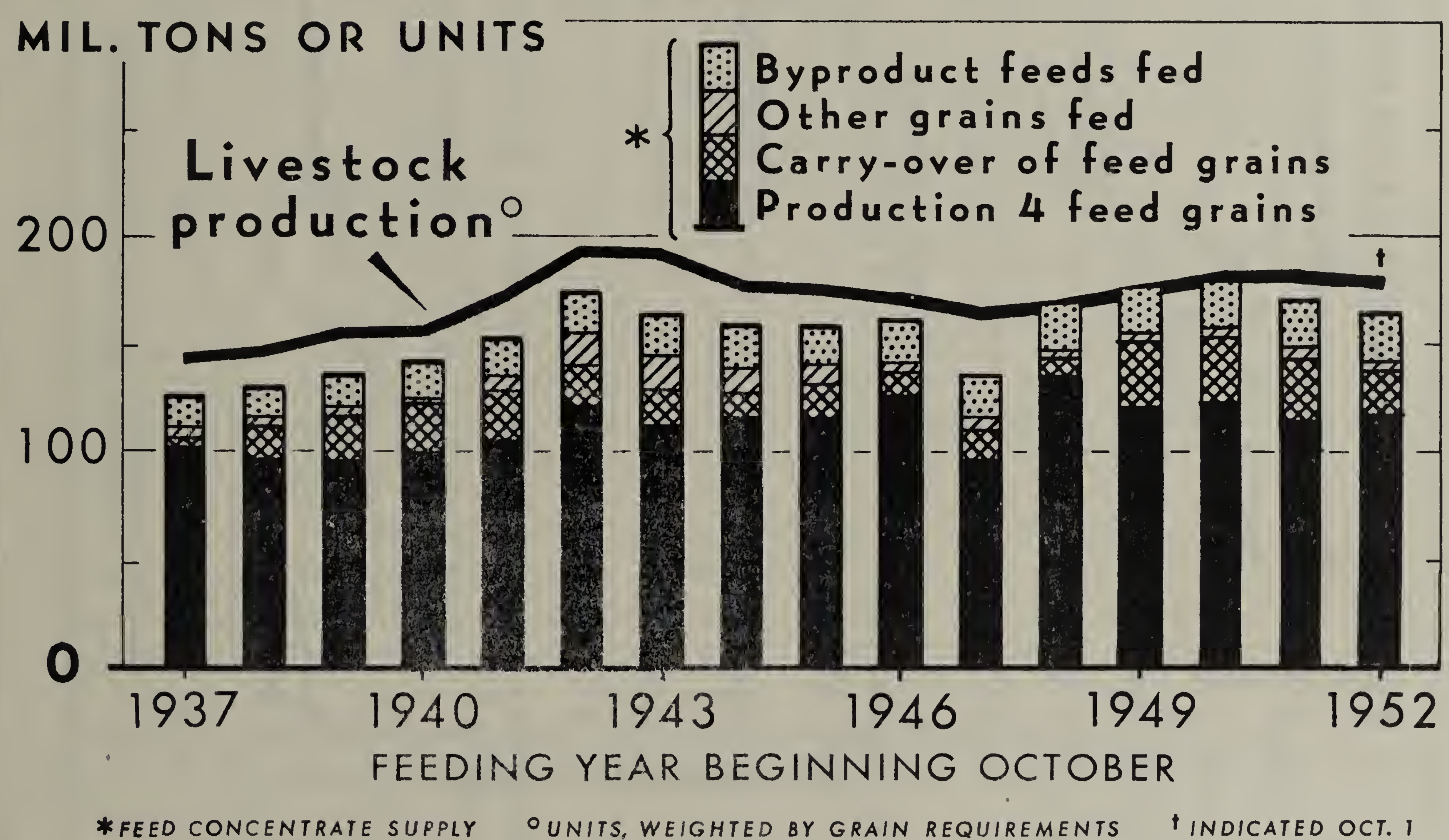
1953 OUTLOOK ISSUE
FOR RELEASE OCT. 13, A. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

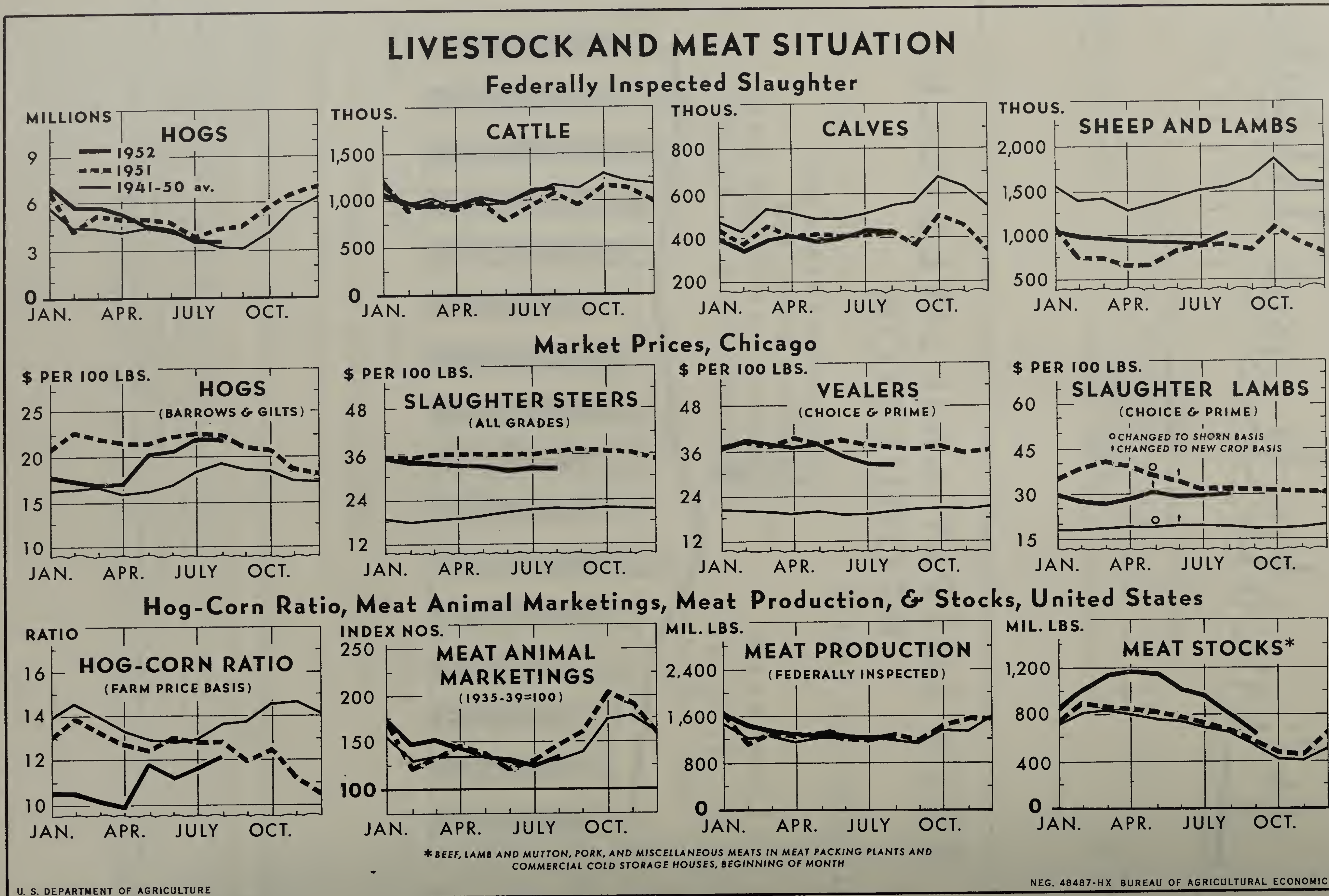
LMS-62 BAE SEPT.-OCT. 1952

FEED SUPPLY AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 46868-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The supply of concentrate feeds for the new feeding year is a little below that of last year, as carry-over stocks of feed grains are down more than this year's production is up. The supply is adequate -- but not liberal -- for the slightly reduced numbers of grain-consuming livestock likely to be fed. Aggregate production of livestock and livestock products will be well maintained in the coming year. With a larger supply of beef expected, much of it produced from forage rather than grain, total meat production in 1953 probably will be about 4 percent larger than this year. Consumption per person will likely be back to the 1948-50 level.


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1952
1951
1941-50 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
250
200
150
100
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
* BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48487-HX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 2, 1952

SUMMARY

As a result of a four-year expansion in the number raised, the number of cattle slaughtered has started to increase this year and a more rapid rise is in prospect for 1953. Slaughter of hogs next year is likely to be a little lower than in 1952 and that of sheep and lambs about the same. The increase in cattle slaughter is expected to push total meat production in 1953 moderately above 1952 and perhaps to a record high peacetime level.

Heavier marketings of cattle next year may result in some further decline in the prices farmers receive for cattle. Because of the competition from beef, prices of hogs and lambs are not expected to change much from this year.

Cattle numbers on farms increased from 77 million in January 1949 to 88 million at the beginning of 1952. Slaughter is up enough this year to slow the expansion only slightly, and the number in January 1953 is expected to be approximately 93 million. According to past experience, slaughter can be expected to increase more in 1953 than in 1952 but not enough to end the increase in the number on farms.

Until recently, most of the gain in cattle slaughter had been in fed cattle--chiefly fed steers. This fall, slaughter of cattle off grass has made its first substantial increase. In 1953, slaughter of fed cattle will probably rise further, as a record volume of cattle feeding is in prospect for this winter. But a greater percentage increase is likely in slaughter of cows and other cattle off range and pasture.

As the prospect is for cattle slaughter to be up moderately in 1953, price declines too will probably be moderate. Price changes may be more nearly uniform by classes of cattle than they have been the past year. Declines to date have been largest for cows and feeder cattle, and least for high grade fed cattle. Some seasonal recovery from lows this fall is likely. Seasonal decreases next year are most likely for fed cattle in late winter and spring and for grass cattle in the late summer and fall.

The chances are good for average profits from feeding cattle put on feed this fall, chiefly because prices paid for feeder cattle are sharply lower than last year. Feeder prices are low enough that a slow decline in fed cattle prices would not reduce profits below average.

Hog slaughter this fall has been running about one-tenth smaller than last fall as a result of a reduced spring pig crop. Nevertheless, prices for hogs have been no higher than a year ago. They have reflected the competition of the larger supply and lower price of beef this year than last. Also, a much lower price of lard this year is helping to pull down hog prices.

The hog-corn price ratio this fall is slightly below average. This would point to a small reduction in the number of sows to farrow next spring. On the other hand, the bumper corn crop in the Western Corn Belt would indicate larger spring farrowings. Hog production was reduced in that region this year, and, except for cattle feeding, other livestock enterprises are not offering great competition. Moreover, the price of corn is not so low as to encourage large scale sealing under loan. All together, prospects appear to be for a 1953 spring pig crop about the same, or at most a little larger, than the 1952 spring crop.

Hog slaughter in the first 7 or 8 months of next year will be smaller than in the same period of 1952. Slaughter in the last 4 or 5 months will probably not be much different from this year, as it will be governed by the number of spring pigs saved.

Increased competition from beef, lower prices for lard, and other factors will probably prevent the price of hogs next year from increasing as much as the volume of hog slaughter is reduced. Nevertheless, prices this winter will not be depressed as much as last winter and for 1953 as a whole promise to average as high or a little higher than in 1952. The hog-corn price ratio may be close to its longtime average, affording approximately average returns from hog production.

Sheep and lamb slaughter in 1953 will probably not be greatly different from this year's slaughter, which has been so large as to indicate that the brief expansion in sheep numbers which began in 1950 ended this year. Prices of lambs in 1953 may be reduced a little below this year's prices because of the increased competition from beef.

Total meat production will probably be increased next year as much as or more than it was this year; and it may equal or surpass the 1947 peacetime high. Consumption per person is forecast at 144 pounds. This would be less than in 1947 because population is larger, but greater than in 1952 and about as large as in 1948-50.

THE OUTLOOK FOR MEAT FOR 1953

More Meat to be Produced in 1953; Increase in Beef and Veal

Production of meat has been rising moderately in 1952 and will continue to increase in 1953. Production next year might attain the record peacetime level of 1947 (table 1). However, it will not equal the 1943-45 wartime average.

A production next year equalling 1947 would not provide as much meat for consumption per person as in that year, since the population is larger and military requirements for meat greater. But the consumption of 144 pounds per person forecasted for 1953 would be several pounds more than in 1952 and about equal to the level of 1948-50.

Table 1.- Production and consumption per person of red meat and poultry, United States, annual 1945-52 and forecast for 1953

Year	Red Meats: Beef	Red Meats: Veal	Red Meats: Lamb and mutton	Red Meats: Pork excluding lard	Red Meats: Total	Poultry meat 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
	Production 2/					
1945	10,276	1,664	1,054	10,697	23,691	4,816
1946	9,373	1,445	968	11,150	22,934	4,323
1947	10,432	1,605	799	10,502	23,338	4,067
1948	9,076	1,423	747	10,055	21,300	3,798
1949	9,439	1,334	603	10,286	21,682	4,521
1950	9,538	1,230	597	10,714	22,079	4,521
1951	8.843	1,061	522	11,483	21,909	4,797
1952 3/	9,600	1,100	600	11,300	22,600	5,393
1953 4/	10,500	1,250	600	10,700	23,250	5,750
	Consumption per person					
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1945	59.0	11.8	7.3	66.2	144.3	32.9
1946	61.3	9.9	6.6	75.4	153.2	30.2
1947	69.1	10.8	5.3	69.1	154.3	27.9
1948	62.7	9.5	5.0	67.4	144.6	26.8
1949	63.5	8.8	4.1	67.3	143.7	29.2
1950	63.0	8.0	3.9	68.6	143.5	31.3
1951	56.1	6.6	3.4	71.5	137.8	34.0
1952 3/	60.4	7.0	5.9	70.7	142.0	35.1
1953 4/	66.0	7.5	3.8	66.5	144.0	35.7

1/ Chicken, including commercial broilers, and turkey.
2/ Production of red meats is carcass weight equivalent of production from total United States slaughter.
3/ Partly forecast.
4/ Forecast.

This outlook for meat in 1953 is derived chiefly from the increase expected in slaughter of cattle and calves. Larger output of beef and veal will account for nearly all the gain expected in total meat production. Production of pork will probably fall short of this year's output, and production of lamb and mutton seems likely to change relatively little from this year.

The increase in production of beef in prospect for next year seems likely to be substantial. During the first 5 months of 1952, commercial production of beef was only 3 percent greater than a year before. Production during the summer was up a good deal from the low level of the summer of 1951. Output this fall has been running well above last fall, and the 1952 total will show a gain of 8 to 9 percent from 1951.

The larger production of beef this fall than last is the first increase to be realized from the big expansion in cattle production that began in 1949. This expansion will push annual beef production higher in the next several years.

Assuming that the rate of slaughter expansion will be gradual, an increase of around 10 percent in production of beef can be expected in 1953. At this level, production for 1953 would surpass the record output of 1947. Consumption of beef per person next year, forecasted at approximately 66 pounds, would be up 10 pounds from 1951 and 5 or 6 pounds from 1952. Except for 1947 it would be the highest rate of consumption per person since 1918.

A larger supply is in prospect for both the better grades of beef that come from grain fed cattle and for the medium and lower grades that come from cows slaughtered and from cattle marketed off grass. It is likely, however, that the greater percentage gain will be in the medium and lower grades.

Production of veal also will increase in 1953. Unlike beef, production of veal will not be so large in comparison with earlier highs. For several years slaughter of calves has been small relative to the number of cattle slaughtered, and it will continue small. The number of veal calves has been kept down because milk cow numbers have not increased, and relatively few beef calves have been slaughtered because price relationships have not favored selling many beef calves at the "calf" age.

No great change in lamb and mutton production is likely in 1953. Production in early months will probably be smaller than at the same time this year, but production later in the year may be as large or larger.

Production of pork next year will likely total a little less than in 1952. Output during early months will be materially less than the large production of those months of 1952. During the spring and summer, pork production will be at a somewhat lower level than at the same seasons this year. These changes will reflect reductions in the pig crops of 1952. Since the present outlook is for only a small change in the number of 1953 spring pigs, pork output during the fall of next year may be about the same as or slightly larger than this fall.

Declining Price Trend
Likely for Beef and Veal

The general outlook is for a moderately lower retail price of beef and veal next year than this. Less change is likely in the price of lamb and pork. The price for lamb might decline a little because of increased competition from beef. The price of pork may be about as high as 1952, as the effects of the reduced supply and of greater competition from beef may about offset each other.

As the increase in the beef supply is expected to be gradual, price declines for beef and veal may be moderate. This is especially likely so long as consumer incomes and demand for meat remain strong.

Sustained by continued high incomes of consumers, retail prices of meat in 1952 have not weakened a lot. The retail price of steer beef cuts at New York in August was only 4 percent less than last August. The prices of pork and lamb this August were slightly higher than a year earlier. However, many meat prices in August a year ago were limited by ceilings. If ceilings had not been in effect, prices of some meats probably would have been a little higher last August and the decline to this August would have been greater.

Most price changes for meats have been due to increased supplies. Demand for meat has apparently remained strong.

Evidence that consumer demand for meat has been well sustained is provided by comparisons of retail price and value with income. Indications to date this year are that the retail value of meat consumption is as high relative to incomes as it was in both 1950 and 1951. However, expenditures for meat have shifted considerably from pork to beef, reversing the change caused by price controls in 1951. In that year, beef was in short supply and pork was relatively abundant, so that price ceilings proved more restrictive on beef than pork. With less beef available than would have been purchased at ceiling prices, expenditures for beef were held down and the retail value of beef consumed dropped 0.1 point to 2.6 percent of incomes. Some of the unfilled demand was transferred to pork, expenditures for which increased (table 2).

When the supply of beef became larger in 1952, expenditures for beef again increased and those for pork decreased. The retail value of pork consumed has dropped back below even the 1950 relation to incomes. The decline in demand for pork has prevented the price from increasing much over a year ago even though the pork supply is smaller.

It seems likely that the readjustment from the special conditions of 1951 is about complete, and that demand for pork will hold near its present level. With a smaller supply in prospect next year, this suggests that the price will average as high or possibly slightly higher than this year.

Table 2.- Retail price of meat and retail value of consumption, by kinds, 1946-52

Year	Average retail price of meat per pound 1/	Retail value of meat consumed per person 2/		Disposable personal income 3/		Retail valu[e] of meat as percentage of dispos- able income
		Value	Index number, 1935-39=100	Value	Index number, 1935-39=100	
	Cents	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Percent
	All meat					
1946	38.3	51.13	175.7	1,117	219.0	4.6
1947	56.1	74.86	257.3	1,169	229.2	6.4
1948	62.5	78.29	269.0	1,277	250.4	6.1
1949	56.8	70.69	242.9	1,248	244.7	5.7
1950	59.3	73.73	253.4	1,347	264.1	5.5
1951	65.9	78.89	271.1	1,450	284.3	5.4
1952 4/	66	81.00	279	1,472	289	5.5
	Beef					
1946	41.8	20.31	159.9	1,117	219.0	1.8
1947	61.1	33.24	261.7	1,169	229.2	2.8
1948	73.7	36.43	286.9	1,277	250.4	2.9
1949	66.8	33.53	264.0	1,248	244.7	2.7
1950	73.5	36.54	287.7	1,347	264.1	2.7
1951	85.7	37.95	298.8	1,450	284.3	2.6
1952 4/	86	41.00	323	1,472	289	2.8
	Pork excluding lard					
1946	35.3	24.60	193.7	1,117	219.0	2.2
1947	51.4	32.99	259.8	1,169	229.2	2.8
1948	52.3	32.73	257.7	1,277	250.4	2.6
1949	46.9	29.40	231.5	1,248	244.7	2.4
1950	46.4	29.57	232.8	1,347	264.1	2.2
1951	50.4	33.49	263.7	1,450	284.3	2.3
1952 4/	48.5	32.00	251	1,472	289	2.15

1/ Weighted average of retail prices for all important cuts. The all meat average is computed by weighting the price of each meat in each year by the quantity consumed in that year. It excludes lard.

2/ Computed from estimated retail weight of each meat consumed per civilian consumer.

3/ Computed from income data of Department of Commerce.

4/ Partly forecast.

Imports of Meat to Continue below 1951

Less meat has been imported so far in 1952 than last year. Shipments have been smaller from Mexico, Argentina and Canada. Imports of livestock and most types of meat from Canada have been prohibited since late February following an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in that country. The volume of meat imports into the United States in 1953 will depend in part upon how large a proportion of the Mexican cattle surplus is shipped to the United States in the form of meat and in part upon the number of months in 1953 the Canadian border is open. With prices sagging, the United States market may not attract in 1953 the quantity of canned and processed meats from South America and other countries that it did in 1951 and 1952.

The Canadian Government declared in August that foot and mouth disease no longer exists in that country. The United States has not yet given any notice as to when imports might again be permitted.

THE OUTLOOK FOR FEED SUPPLIES IN 1953

Feed Supplies
Generally Adequate

Livestock production in the United States as a whole in the year ahead will not be limited to any great extent by feed supplies. Shortages of feed will continue, however, in areas damaged by drought.

Total supplies of feed concentrates for the 1952-53 feeding year will be adequate to meet the needs of the somewhat smaller number of grain-consuming livestock to be fed during the year. The total production of concentrate feeds is expected to about take care of requirements. Carry-over stocks of feed grains on hand next October 1 will be reduced only a little, at most, from a year earlier.

Supplies of roughage are less than the abundant supplies of last year, while the number of roughage-consuming animal units is up from a year earlier. However, shortages will be regional rather than national.

Production of feed grains in 1952, according to the September 1 crop report, is slightly greater than in 1951 but below the previous 3 years. Compared with last year, an increase in the corn crop more than offset reductions in the other feed grains--oats, barley and sorghum grains. A total 1952 production of 117 million tons of feed grains together with a carry-over of about 20 million tons and the prospective supplies of other feeds would add to a total supply of 163 million tons of all concentrate feeds. This supply would be well above the prewar years but the smallest since 1947 1/.

1/ Revised data for October 1 and complete feed balance table may be found in the Outlook issue of The Feed Situation (BAE).

Corn Supply Close to Last Year

The 1952-53 corn supply is estimated at 3.7 billion bushels, about the same as last year. The 1952 corn crop of 3,185 million bushels indicated on September 1 is 244 million bushels or nearly 8 percent above 1951. But stocks of corn in storage October 1 were down from a year earlier. Holdings of corn under price support, including both that under loan and that owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation, were sharply below the 487 million bushels held on October 1, 1951, as much old corn was sold by CCC or redeemed by farmers while little addition was made from the 1951 crop.

The 1952 corn crop in the Corn Belt is especially good in both size and quality. The crop there was second only to the 1948 crop.

Oilseed Cake and Meal Production Down

The supply of high-protein feeds during the 1952-53 feeding season is expected to be nearly as large as a year earlier. Prospective production of oilseed cake and meal will be down from a year earlier, on the basis of September 1 prospects for oilseed production. Compared with 1951, the 1952 production of cottonseed is expected to be down about 9 percent, flaxseed about 9 percent and soybeans for beans 2 percent. Supplies of other grain byproduct feeds--wheat millfeeds, corn gluten feed and meal, brewers and distillers' dried grains, and others--and of animal protein feeds will probably not differ much from a year earlier.

1952 Hay Crop 6 Percent Below 1951

The hay crop of 1952 was 6 percent less than the record crop of 1951 though generally of higher quality. The total hay supply for 1952-53 was indicated on September 1 at about 117 million tons or 5 percent smaller than in 1951-52. With an increased number of roughage-consuming animal units, the decline in the supply per animal unit is even greater. Although below average, supplies will probably be adequate for the livestock to be fed in most areas. Hay supplies will be in short supply, and prices relatively high, in areas such as the South, Southeast and Southwest where dry weather seriously reduced hay production.

Prices of Feeds Likely to Average About Same as Last Year

Prospects are for prices of corn to be a little lower in the coming year but for prices of many other feeds to be a little higher.

The large corn crop will likely result in slightly lower prices of corn in the Corn Belt but the price support, $1.60 per bushel, national average, and smaller carry-over stocks will tend to limit the decline. Prices of other feed grains and hay will likely be higher in 1952-53 than in 1951-52 because of the smaller production this year. Prices of high-protein feeds may show varied price trends but will probably average higher in the coming year.

Increased Production of Feed Grains Needed, Especially in Longer-run Future

Present stocks of feed grains were largely accumulated from the 1948 and 1949 crops. They are down one-third from the stocks following those harvests, and are the smallest since those at the end of the 1947-48 season. Carry-over reserves were reduced in both the 1950-51 and 1951-52 feeding years. The stocks remaining now are too small to provide much cushion against a poor crop.

In the future, a generally rising annual production of feed will be necessary if the output of pork, milk, poultry and eggs--all primarily produced from grain--is to increase. However, the need for increased feed production for current use will probably not be quite so pressing in the next few years as it has been. In those years an increased supply of meat will come from a rising cattle slaughter. This will relieve slightly the need for increased production from hogs, the biggest consumers of grain. These developments will be in contrast with the last several years when production of beef was small and adequate meat supplies could be attained only from big pig crops and hog slaughter.

If feed crops should be especially large in the next few years, part of them would go to rebuild carry-over stocks from present low levels. In the more distant future when beef production has leveled off or has begun to decline, feed crops much larger than now would go directly into feed use to meet the greater needs for livestock products for a growing population.

OUTLOOK FOR BEEF CATTLE FOR 1953

Another Increase Due in Cattle Slaughter

In 1953 cattle slaughter will continue, probably at an accelerated rate, the increase that began in 1952. The larger slaughter will probably bring renewed price declines during the year, although price changes may be more uniform by classes of cattle than this year.

Slaughter of cattle and calves in 1952 will total around 27 1/2 million head, about 6 percent above the 26 million of 1951. The increase is slowing only slightly the rate of expansion in the number on farms. During 1952 around 5 million head are being added to inventories, a little less than the 6 million added in 1951. The approximately 93 million expected in January 1953 will set another new record, and will be 16 million above the 77 million on farms January 1, 1949 (table 3).

The potential for increased slaughter in 1953 is very large. Such events as a widespread severe drought or an extremely sharp break in prices would doubtlessly result in greatly increased slaughter. However, a more gradual increase is more likely. In most cattle cycles, several years elapse before slaughter is expanded to the point that it equals annual production and prevents a further increase in numbers on farms. If the past pattern is repeated, numbers on farms will continue upward at a slowing rate, and will reach 100 million head in 1955. Cattle slaughter about 10 to 15 percent larger in 1953 than in 1952 would be consistent with such a trend.

Table 3.- Number of cattle and calves on farms January 1, calf crop, and number slaughtered, annual 1945 to date

Year	Number of cattle and calves on farms January 1: All cattle and calves	For milk: Total	For milk: Cows	Not for milk: Total	Not for milk: Cows	Calf crop	Number slaughtered: Cattle	Number slaughtered: Calves
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1945	85,573	40,849	27,770	44,724	16,456	35,155	21,694	13,657
1946	82,235	38,549	26,521	43,686	16,408	34,643	19,824	12,176
1947	80,554	37,683	25,842	42,871	16,488	34,703	22,404	13,726
1948	77,171	36,169	24,615	41,002	16,010	33,125	19,177	12,378
1949	76,830	35,270	23,862	41,560	15,919	33,748	18,765	11,398
1950	77,963	35,455	23,853	42,508	16,743	34,846	18,624	10,504
1951	82,025	35,606	23,722	46,419	18,396	35,622	17,100	8,913
1952 1/	88,062	35,870	23,407	52,192	20,608		2/18,300	2/ 9,100

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Partly estimated.

Table 4.- Slaughter of cattle and sheep under Federal inspection, by classes, 1945-52

Year	Cattle: Steers	Cattle: Cows	Cattle: Heifers	Cattle: Bulls	Cattle: Total	Sheep: Lambs	Sheep: Sheep 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1945	6,657	5,691	1,620	571	14,538	16,776	4,444
1946	5,364	4,317	1,324	408	11,413	16,535	3,350
1947	6,968	6,030	1,953	573	15,524	14,374	2,292
1948	5,751	5,279	1,483	481	12,994	12,848	2,495
1949	7,090	4,178	1,492	462	13,222	10,883	1,254
1950	6,944	4,267	1,390	503	13,103	10,573	1,166
1951	6,180	4,008	1,199	492	11,879	8,889	1,167
1952 2/	7,100	4,050					1,300

1/ Principally ewes
2/ Forecast based on numbers in first 8 months.

Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, P.M.A.

Another reason for expecting slaughter to increase about this much is the comparatively small rise to date in slaughter of cows and young cattle. In the first half of 1952 most of the increase in cattle slaughter consisted of fed cattle--particularly fed steers. In the first 8 months of the year 10 percent more steers than a year earlier were slaughtered under Federal inspection, but the number of cows was the same as last year (table 4). Steers have been slaughtered at heavy weights. Those under Federal inspection averaged 1,024 pounds in July, the heaviest for that month in 15 years of record, and 1,016 pounds in August, the heaviest August weight since 1941. Only this fall have marketings of cattle off range and pasture been stepped up substantially.

The relatively few cows and light weight steers slaughtered is characteristic of the initial stages of the uptrend in slaughter. In later years, cows and lighter stock will be an increasing proportion of the annual slaughter.

Prices Lower This Year;
Further Declines Likely

Prices of beef cattle have trended lower in 1952. Fed cattle have declined least. Prices of cows, feeder and stocker cattle, and lower grade slaughter steers have declined most (table 5). At Chicago in September, Choice slaughter steers were $4.15 per 100 pounds below a year earlier, while decreases amounted to $9.26 for Commercial cows and $5.72 for Commercial steers. At Kansas City feeder cattle were averaging $8.33 below last September. The biggest single factor in lower prices this year is the increased marketings, though lower prices for hides and other byproducts also contribute. The smaller decline for top grade slaughter cattle than for other classes is the usual experience when cattle slaughter is increasing. For when numbers on farms are expanding and current slaughter is small, fed cattle make up an above average percentage of total cattle slaughter, and their price premium over lower grades of cattle is relatively narrow. On the other hand, strong demand for a short supply of cows and feeder cattle results in relatively high prices for those classes. As an illustration of these trends, Utility grade cows at Chicago sold for approximately 50 percent of the price of Choice steers in 1947. By 1951 they were up to 68 percent of the Choice steer price. But as cattle slaughter increased in 1952 the price of cows for the first 8 months dropped to 63 percent of Choice steers. Similarly, prices of feeder steers at Kansas City in the fall of such years as 1950 and 1951 were up to nearly 90 percent of the concurrent price of Choice slaughter steers at Chicago, but this fall they are less than 75 percent of the slaughter steer price.

A further reduction in prices of cattle will accompany the increases in slaughter. Well maintained incomes of consumers and a growing population will help to prevent any precipitous price breaks. Also, the relatively smaller supply of pork next year than in several past years will be a supporting influence. Nevertheless, a rather substantial reduction appears in prospect. The decline may be a little more uniform by classes than it was this year. The percentage decline for cows and feeder cattle may be no greater than for slaughter steers.

Table 5.- Market price per 100 pounds for selected classes of meat animals, by years, 1946-51, by months 1952

Period	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Prime	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Choice	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Good	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Commercial	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: Utility	Beef steers for slaughter, Chicago: All grades	Cows Chicago, Commercial	Vealers, Chicago, Choice & Prime	Stocker & feeder steers, Kansas City 1/	Barrows & gilts, all weights, Chicago	Lambs: Slaughter, Chicago, Choice & Prime	Lambs: Feeding, Good & Choice, Omaha	Slaughter ewes, Good & Choice, Chicago
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
1946	20.24	19.32	17.36		13.75	19.16		16.87	15.87	18.42	18.65	16.46	8.25
1947	30.64	26.22	21.76		18.04	25.83		24.98	20.81	25.21	23.59	20.76	9.17
1948	35.24	30.96	26.31		22.16	30.88		29.02	25.54	23.27	25.96	22.36	11.59
1949	28.65	26.07	23.17		19.77	25.80		27.64	21.34	18.62	25.45	23.06	10.83
1950	32.43	29.68	26.08		22.86	29.35		31.08	26.67	18.39	27.30	27.52	12.67
1951	38.11	35.96	33.37	30.97	28.31	35.72	27.76	37.19	32.63	20.74	34.33	31.90	17.58
1952													
Jan.	36.78	34.68	32.27	39.59	26.72	34.25	24.26	36.84	31.19	17.79	29.98	---	14.84
Feb.	37.07	34.57	31.90	29.12	26.46	33.78	23.71	38.15	32.06	17.33	27.78	---	14.81
Mar.	37.58	34.69	31.34	28.17	25.38	33.41	24.29	37.80	31.99	16.77	26.96	---	14.56
Apr.	37.24	34.76	31.56	28.16	25.88	33.39	24.90	36.87	31.32	16.86	2/28.58	---	2/13.99
May	36.20	34.17	31.62	28.64	26.20	33.29	25.42	37.24	32.06	20.21	30.72	---	2/12.78
June	34.63	32.81	30.74	28.18	25.68	32.22	24.01	34.95	27.21	20.41	29.25	---	9.21
July	34.55	33.03	30.45	27.51	23.53	32.53	22.09	32.68	25.24	21.91	29.27	3/24.25	4/ 7.87
Aug.	34.46	33.02	29.87	26.59	22.32	32.52	21.27	32.40	25.17	21.87	30.03	24.63	9.33
Sept.	34.17	32.53	28.96	25.10	20.69	32.19	19.71	32.45	23.57	20.17	26.60	23.10	7.36

1/ Average for all weights and grades. 2/ Wooled. 3/ 2 weeks average. 4/ Shorn.
Compiled from Market News, Livestock Branch, PMA.

Seasonal fluctuations will take place about this general trend. Prices of fed cattle may strengthen a little late this fall or early winter, then later decline seasonally. Prices of lower grade cattle seem likely to increase a little after the big fall marketings have ended. They will probably decline seasonally next summer and fall.

Returns From Cattle Feeding
May be About Average

Lower costs of feeder cattle this fall are a favorable factor in the outlook for cattle feeding this winter. Prices appear to be low enough so that profits from feeding will be average, even though prices of slaughter cattle decline moderately. However, a sharp decline in slaughter prices would result in another year of below-average profits.

Profits during the 1951-52 feeding season were far less than they were in the two previous years and were somewhat below the average of the previous 10 years. Prices for feeder cattle were a record high at the beginning of last season, and prices of slaughter cattle eased downward during the season. According to calculations of costs and returns for a standard corn belt feeding program, returns from feeding a 700 pound steer to a market weight of 1,050 pounds yielded a return of $21.49 per head above the costs of the feeder steer, feed and transportation and marketing expense. This was less than in any previous year since the war except 1948-49.

The comparisons in table 6 are based upon a representative feeding program but do not necessarily reflect the experiences of individual feeders. Not all costs and credits are included in the calculations.

A Record Volume of Cattle
Feeding Likely this Winter

A large movement of feeder cattle to feed lots this summer and to date this fall points to a larger volume of cattle feeding this winter than ever before. The increase in total numbers of feeder stock available, the drought in many areas which required increased marketing of cattle, and the large corn crop in the Corn Belt all are conducive to a big volume of feeding. Also supporting this prospect is the relatively greater price strength this fall for high grade fed cattle than for other classes.

Receipts of stocker and feeder cattle and calves in 9 Corn Belt States from June through August were 15 percent larger than a year before. Receipts in September, however, probably were not up this much.

Long Run Cattle Outlook
Favorable; But Lower Prices
Likely for Next Few Years

The strong demand for beef by a fast growing population that led up to the present build-up in cattle numbers promises also a favorable outlook for cattle in the long-run future. But because numbers have increased so fast the last 2 or 3 years, in the more immediate future a considerable adjustment in the price of cattle relative to other livestock prices can be expected.

Table 6.- Specified average prices and costs in the feeding of steers in the Corn Belt, 1943-52

Item	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Average price per 100 pounds for Choice grade beef steers sold out of first hands, Chicago, April-July	15.91	16.15	17.46	25.26	32.59	25.40	29.36	36.15	33.69
Subsidy, per 100 pounds		.29	.38						
Average cost of feeder steers at Kansas City per 100 pounds, August-December	11.52	11.56	12.91	16.37	21.75	25.00	20.65	27.73	31.71
Average price per bushel of corn, North Central States, September-July	1.039	1.009	1.175	1.490	2.201	1.239	1.175	1.511	1.638
Average price per ton received by farmers for alfalfa hay, North Central States September-July 1/	16.34	17.39	15.54	22.37	24.37	23.96	21.39	21.34	20.79
Average wholesale price per ton for soybean meal, 41 percent protein, Chicago, September-July	51.90	52.00	58.52	76.78	94.19	74.06	75.85	75.34	88.66
	Total value								
Market value at Chicago for Choice grade beef steer, market weight 1,050 pounds	167.06	169.58	183.33	265.23	342.20	266.70	308.28	379.58	353.74
Subsidy credit		3.04	3.99						
Market value plus subsidy	167.06	172.62	187.32	265.23	342.20	266.70	308.28	379.68	353.74
Market cost at Kansas City of 700 pound feeder steer	80.64	80.92	90.37	114.59	152.25	175.00	144.55	194.11	221.97
Cost of transportation from market to feeder	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.73	3.61	3.96	3.96	4.21
Cost of 45 bushels of corn	46.76	45.40	52.88	67.05	99.04	55.76	52.88	68.00	73.71
Cost of 0.75 tons of Alfalfa hay	12.26	13.04	11.66	16.78	18.28	17.97	16.04	16.00	15.59
Cost of 150 pounds of soybean meal	3.89	3.90	4.37	5.76	7.06	5.55	5.69	5.65	6.65
Transportation and marketing expense	6.01	6.00	6.07	6.27	7.57	8.65	8.97	9.18	10.12
Total of cost items shown 2/	152.11	151.81	167.90	213.00	286.93	266.54	232.09	296.90	332.25
Margin of market value of steer over total of cost items shown 2/	14.95	20.81	19.42	52.23	55.27	0.16	76.19	82.68	21.49

1/ Price for loose hay through 1945-46; for baled hay 1946-47 to date. Prices for 1946-47 and 1947-48 estimated from price paid for baled alfalfa hay, United States. 2/ Does not include overhead costs, cost of pasture or other feed ingredients and death loss, or credits for manure and for hogs following steers. In some estimates, the net additional cost is assumed to be 10 percent of the feed cost. The feed ration and prices shown are designed to be fairly representative of average feeding experience in the Corn Belt, but do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders. Data for earlier years may be found in October issue each year.

During 1952 about $27\frac{1}{2}$ million cattle and calves are being slaughtered. This is around 5 million head short of the number being produced, and the number on farms at the end of the year will be increased by that much. It is clear that slaughter must increase a great deal more in the future before it will be large enough to hold numbers on farms steady or cause them to decrease. Projections based on the record of previous cycles indicate that cattle and calf slaughter might reach 38 million head or more annually by the middle or latter part of this decade, nearly 40 percent more than the slaughter in 1952. (These projections were published in the March-April issue of this Situation.)

From a slaughter of that size, the beef and veal supply would provide for a consumption of about 70 pounds of beef and 11 pounds of veal per person. This is considerably more than the consumption in 1952 of about $60\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of beef and 7 pounds of veal.

If annual cattle slaughter and beef and veal output increase about as projected, a declining trend in prices of cattle and calves can be expected. The relationship between prices of cattle and other livestock and livestock products would become closer to its long-run normal or average. In 1951 and 1952 the prices of beef slaughter steers have been about one-third above their average ratio to prices of hogs (table 7.). They are not likely to retain nearly so high a relationship.

How much prices of cattle decline in the next several years will depend in large measure on future employment and incomes of consumers. Demand for beef is stronger relative to other meats now than formerly, and it is likely to remain strong if consumer incomes stay large. Continued high employment and incomes thus would cushion price declines considerably; but a business recession would accentuate them.

A rapid liquidation of cattle numbers forced by a severe drought also would bring very great price declines. They would be temporary.

Future increases in cattle slaughter will have much competitive effect on hogs. But it will show up more in restricting hog production than in pushing down hog prices. The reason is that each tendency toward lower prices will be offset by adjusting production. Production of hogs can respond much faster to price change than can production of cattle. Nevertheless, if employment and incomes remain high a small expansion in hog production might take place over the 93 million pigs indicated for 1952.

If support prices for corn are maintained at about present levels, a business recession during the years of a large beef supply would result in sizable cutbacks in hog production. Subjected to both the competition from beef and falling consumer incomes, demand for pork would be weak. But corn would be available for feeding only at close to the support price. Hence hog production would have to be reduced enough to hold prices of hogs to a point where feeding of corn at a near-support price would be profitable. Thus the price of hogs would tend to be about at an average ratio to the support price of corn, and the number of hogs raised would be less than in recent years. If annual corn crops were large, a large amount of corn would go into storage.

Table 7.- Price comparisons between steers, lambs, hogs, and milk, selected periods

Year	Price per 100 pounds: Choice slaughter steers, Chicago 1/	Choice and Prime slaughter lambs, Chicago 2/	Received by farmers for: Hogs	Received by farmers for: Milk delivered to plants and dealers	Ratio of beef steer price to price of: Lambs	Hogs	Milk
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars			
10 year average:							
1922-31	11.05	13.05	8.76	2.30	84.7	126.1	480.4
1932-41	9.19	8.84	6.70	1.72	104.0	137.2	534.3
1942-51	22.92	21.47	17.50	3.76	106.8	131.0	609.6
By years							
1947	26.22	23.59	24.10	4.26	111.1	108.8	615.5
1948	30.96	25.96	23.10	4.87	119.3	134.0	635.7
1949	26.07	25.45	18.10	3.94	102.4	144.0	661.7
1950	29.68	27.30	18.00	3.88	108.7	164.9	764.9
1951	35.96	34.33	20.00	4.58	104.7	179.8	781.7
1952 3/	33.81	28.80	18.57	4.77	117.4	182.1	708.8

1/ Corn Belt beef steers sold out of first hands at Chicago. Called Good grade until 1951.
2/ Formerly called Good and Choice.
3/ Average for first 9 months.

Probably the main implication of these prospects for the intermediate future is that beef cattle will lose some of its competitive advantage in those regions where it normally receives strong competition from other live-stock enterprises. This applies especially to beef cattle raising--as contrasted with feeding--in the Corn Belt and the South. In some parts of those regions beef cow herds have been built up for the first time only during the last several years of unusually high cattle prices. Where it does not fit well in an efficient farm organization, cattle raising will be under increasing competitive pressure. However, improvements in grassland farming have been so great that many new areas will be able to continue in cattle even though prices be lower. And adjustments will often be toward other forage-using livestock, principally dairy cattle, rather than to hogs or poultry or to producing field crops.

After the intermediate period of cyclical adjustment is past, the long run future holds bright promise for cattle. The West and much of the new cattle area of the East will continue to produce beef cattle and will be in a position to capitalize on the basic strong demand for beef by the expanding population of this country.

Table 8.- Pig crops and hog slaughter, United States, 1945-52, with forecast for 1953

Year	Pig Crop: Spring	Pig Crop: Fall	Pig Crop: Total	Hogs slaughtered 1/
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1945	52,216	34,611	86,827	71,891
1946	52,191	30,503	82,694	76,115
1947	52,199	31,909	83,289	74,001
1948	50,468	33,358	83,826	70,869
1949	56,969	36,275	93,244	74,997
1950	57,935	39,404	97,339	79,263
1951	62,007	40,182	102,189	85,581
1952	56,607	2/ 36,500	2/ 93,107	3/ 85,000
1953				4/ 81,000

1/ Total, including farm slaughter, for the calendar year.
2/ Based on farmers' intentions for fall farrowing as reported June 1 and on an average size of litter for the fall crop with allowance for trend. Number rounded to nearest 500,000 head.
3/ Partly forecast.
4/ Forecast.

THE OUTLOOK FOR HOGS FOR 1953

Hog Slaughter to be Smaller in First 8 Months

In each of the first 7 or 8 months of 1953, fewer hogs will likely be slaughtered than in the same months this year. The largest reduction is expected at mid-winter, when slaughter will be considerably below the large slaughter at that time this year.

Decreases in slaughter are in prospect because of the smaller pig crops of 1952. The spring pig crop was 9 percent smaller than the same crop of 1951, and farmers intended on June 1 to reduce the fall crop by the same percentage (table 8).

The size of hog slaughter in the later months of next year will be determined by the size of the 1953 spring pig crop. Current price trends would indicate a small reduction in that crop. The hog-corn price ratio this fall is averaging a little less than the long-run normal for the season.

(See table 9 and chart, page 22.) Outbreaks of diseases of hogs, notably cholera, anthrax and vesicular exanthema, in the past year or two are somewhat discouraging to hog producers. Other factors, however, would indicate a small increase in spring farrowings. Especially important is the bumper corn harvest in the Western Corn Belt. Farrowings in that region were reduced rather sharply in 1952 and farmers in the area are in a position to expand next year. Also, except for cattle feeding, other livestock enterprises are not in strong competitive position. Downtrends in cattle prices have dampened interest in expanding beef cattle production further. Producing and feeding lambs is not increasing, and there is as yet no perceptible shift back toward producing more milk. Moreover, the price of corn is not low enough to encourage large scale storage under loan. Based on all these considerations, the apparent prospect is for no great change, or at most a small increase, in the spring pig crop.

Prices of hogs next year will likely average as high or a little higher than this year, assuming that demand for meat does not change much. Prices during the winter seem certain to be higher than the depressed prices of last winter. Prices during the summer and fall of next year probably will be about equal to those in the corresponding periods of this year.

Increased competition from beef and weak demand and price for lard will tend to hold down prices for hogs next year, just as they have been doing during much of this year. Prices of hogs this fall, for example, have been a little below last fall despite a reduction of around one-tenth in the number of hogs slaughtered. A weaker demand for pork due to a larger supply of beef and its lower price is a primary explanation. (See discussion of price and retail value of beef and pork, page 7.) Also holding down current hog prices is the low price for lard. Wholesale price quotations for lard at Chicago in August were 29 percent below last August and the lowest since June 1950. Wholesale prices for most cuts of pork, by contrast, were as high or higher this August than a year earlier.

Despite only a small improvement in the price of hogs, an average or nearly average hog-corn price ratio is in prospect. Prices of corn are expected to be a little lower than this year. A ratio near average would permit about average returns from raising and feeding hogs.

Long-run Outlook: Less Price Weakness than Cattle, but only Slow Rise in Production

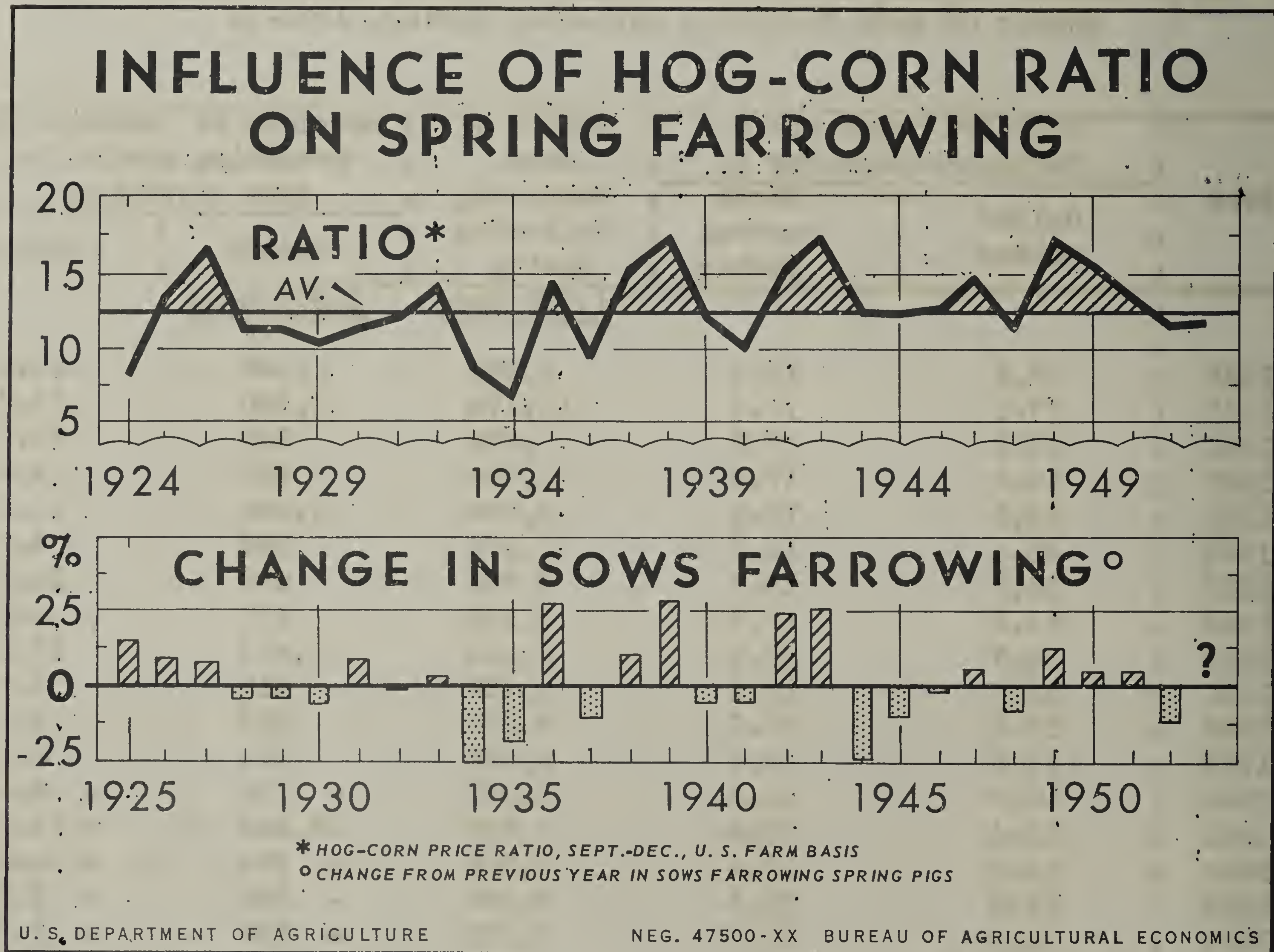
Hogs will probably experience less price decline in future years than cattle, but production will likely increase only slowly. Both price and production of hogs will be affected by trends in employment and incomes.

This outlook is described in connection with the prospects for beef (p.15-18, table 7).

Table 9.- Hog-corn price ratio during fall breeding season, United States and North Central Region, arrayed according to United States ratio, and number of sows farrowing following spring, 1924-52

Year	Hog-corn price ratio September-December 1/ United States	Hog-corn price ratio September-December 1/ North Central States	Number of sows farrowing following spring	Increase or decrease from preceding spring in sows farrowing: Number	Increase or decrease from preceding spring in sows farrowing: Percent
			1,000 head	1,000 head	
1938	17.2	18.8	8,692	1,897	27.9
1942	17.2	18.4	12,174	2,490	25.7
1948	17.1	17.5	8,820	987	12.6
1926	16.6	17.5	9,754	706	7.8
1941	15.5	16.3	9,684	1,924	24.8
1949	15.4	15.8	9,174	354	4.0
1937	15.3	16.7	6,795	618	10.0
1946	14.8	15.6	8,548	471	5.8
1935	14.7	15.8	6,954	1,487	27.2
1932	14.2	17.4	9,122	312	3.5
1950	13.5	13.7	9,591	417	4.5
1925	13.5	15.3	9,048	714	8.6
1945	12.7	13.5	8,077	- 225	- 2.7
1943	12.4	13.4	9,246	-2,928	- 24.1
1944	12.3	13.4	8,302	- 944	- 10.2
1939	12.0	13.3	8,247	- 445	- 5.1
1931	12.0	13.0	8,810	- 159	- 1.8
1952	2/11.5-12.0	--	---	--	---
1951	11.5	11.6	8,530	-1,061	- 11.1
1947	11.2	11.2	7,833	- 715	- 8.4
1927	11.2	11.6	9,301	- 453	- 4.6
1928	11.2	12.2	8,854	- 447	- 4.8
1930	11.2	12.3	8,969	691	8.3
1929	10.3	10.9	8,278	- 576	- 6.5
1940	10.0	10.6	7,760	- 487	- 5.9
1936	9.4	9.4	6,177	- 777	- 11.2
1933	8.6	10.2	6,825	-2,297	- 25.2
1924	8.2	8.7	8,334	-1,465	- 15.0
1934	6.8	7.0	5,467	-1,358	- 19.9

1/ Based on prices received by farmers.
2/ Partly forecast.



Despite consumer preferences for beef, production of hogs will continue large and will increase in the long run future along with the growth of population. Moreover, future prospects can be improved if a leaner type of hog can be raised, providing leaner pork for consumers. It is chiefly the fat cuts of pork that have suffered a decline in consumer preference.

THE OUTLOOK FOR SHEEP AND LAMBS IN 1953

Sheep and Lamb Slaughter to Change Little

The number of sheep and lambs slaughtered and size of the lamb crop indicate that little change is being made this year in numbers of sheep on farms. The lamb crop and the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered will increase little if any in 1953. Prices for lambs may be comparatively well maintained.

After declining for 8 successive years, numbers of sheep and lambs on farms were increased in 1950 and again in 1951. It appeared that a sustained uptrend was beginning. But throughout 1952, sheep and lamb slaughter has been continuously larger than in 1951. The average increase in commercial slaughter for the first 8 months amounted to 21 percent. Most of the gain was in lambs and yearlings. Slaughter of "sheep" (which are mostly ewes) under Federal inspection did not run much ahead of last year until August, and for the first 8 months totaled only 14 percent over a year before (table 10). This does not indicate a large-scale selling of breeding herds of sheep. However, fewer lambs are being added to breeding herds this year than last year.

Reflecting in part the lessened interest in building up sheep herds, prices of ewes this fall are less than half their prices of last fall.

The total number of sheep and lambs next January 1 probably will show only a small change from a year earlier. The number of stock sheep will at most be up only a few hundred thousand head; and the number of sheep and lambs on feed will be smaller. Most or all of any increase in stock sheep will be in regions east of Texas and the Rocky Mountains.

Prices of lambs and wool, as well as ewes, have declined rather severely from peaks reached temporarily in early 1951. The decline in wool has been greater than in lambs. Moreover, a lower value of pelts and pulled wool, reflecting the weaker wool prices, accounts for some of the reduction in price of slaughter lambs. The price declines are a partial cause for the leveling off of sheep numbers and production on farms. Also important, however, is the prolonged dry weather in Texas, where one-sixth of the Nation's lamb crop is produced.

Although lambs will receive increased competition from beef next year, no large price reduction is expected. Prices of wool are likely to be about as high as in 1952, since a wool price support program will continue to hold a floor under prices. The price trends in prospect for lambs and wool are generally more favorable to producers than are those expected for prices of cattle.

Table 10.- Sheep and lambs on farms and ranches January 1, lamb crop, number slaughtered, and wool production, 1945-52

Year	Number January 1			Lamb crop	Total slaughter 1/	Shorn wool production
	Stock sheep	On feed	Total			
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pound
1945	39,609	6,911	46,520	27,042	24,639	308
1946	35,525	6,837	42,362	24,489	22,788	281
1947	31,805	5,693	37,498	21,858	18,706	251
1948	29,486	4,851	34,337	19,594	17,371	232
1949	26,940	4,003	30,943	18,298	13,780	213
1950	26,182	3,644	29,826	17,905	13,244	215
1951	27,253	3,382	30,635	17,989	11,418	226
1952	27,841	3,884	31,725	18,401	2/ 13,600	230
1953					3/ 13,100	

1/ Total slaughter including farm.
2/ Partly forecast.
3/ Forecast.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-August 1951	January-August 1952	August 1951	1952 July	1952 August	1952 September
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	38.69	36.06	37.92	34.55	34.46	34.17
Choice	do.	35.98	33.97	35.85	33.03	33.02	32.53
Good	do.	33.37	31.22	33.10	30.45	29.87	28.96
Commercial	do.	30.94	28.24	30.08	27.51	26.59	25.10
Utility	do.	28.39	25.27	27.23	23.53	22.32	20.69
All grades	do.	35.51	33.17	36.39	32.53	32.52	32.19
Omaha, all grades	do.	34.13	31.71	34.65	31.28	31.42	---
Sioux City, all grades	do.	34.27	31.63	35.01	31.25	31.35	---
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	27.92	23.74	28.65	22.09	21.27	19.71
Utility	do.	24.91	21.48	24.37	19.95	19.03	17.47
Canner and Cutter	do.	21.44	18.57	21.07	16.76	16.25	15.00
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	37.62	35.87	36.68	32.68	32.40	32.45
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	33.55	29.53	32.59	25.24	25.17	23.57
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	29.18	26.96	28.90	26.00	24.90	23.80
Veal calves	do.	32.61	30.50	31.90	28.80	27.40	26.00
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	21.40	18.79	21.50	21.63	20.69	---
180-200 pounds	do.	22.17	19.67	22.38	22.58	21.90	---
200-220 pounds	do.	22.31	19.77	22.72	22.63	22.24	---
220-240 pounds	do.	22.20	19.54	22.70	22.35	22.19	---
240-270 pounds	do.	21.90	19.08	22.38	21.66	21.91	---
270-300 pounds	do.	21.39	18.49	21.67	20.80	21.21	---
All weights	do.	21.85	19.14	22.23	21.91	21.87	---
Eight markets 3/	do.	21.60	18.99	22.10	21.59	21.90	---
Sows, Chicago	do.	18.98	16.54	19.14	18.13	18.44	---
Price received by farmers	do.	20.80	18.50	20.90	20.00	20.90	19.10
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.4	10.5	12.4	12.1	12.1	---
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	12.9	10.9	12.7	11.6	12.1	11.2
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	19.09	12.17	14.63	7.87	9.33	7.36
Price received by farmers	do.	17.01	12.21	15.30	10.10	9.70	9.16
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	35.92	29.07	31.59	29.27	30.03	26.60
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	---	---	31.34	24.25	24.63	23.10
Price received by farmers	do.	32.15	26.28	29.80	25.50	25.60	24.10
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		418	377	416	376	372	349
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	56.13	54.69	56.50	53.60	54.56	---
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	56.62	5/57.31	58.00	59.62	60.50	---
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	23.73	20.36	24.38	22.03	22.82	21.31
Average per 100 pounds	do.	32.58	27.95	33.47	30.24	31.33	29.26
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	26.41	23.72	26.96	25.38	27.05	24.98
Average per 100 pounds	do.	37.03	33.26	37.80	35.59	37.93	35.03
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	84.6	86.8	84.7	85.7	85.5	---
Lamb	do.	76.2	77.0	77.5	79.8	79.4	---
Pork, including lard	do.	45.2	41.2	45.7	41.9	44.5	---
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1947-49=100)		118.9	113.2	120.9	113.1	115.2	---
Retail (1935-39=100) 6/		272.2	272.9	276.6	274.1	280.3	---

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Average of 40-50 lb. for all months but January, July and August.
6/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-August 1951	January-August 1952	August 1951	1952 July	1952 August	1952 September
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		137	142	145	124	135	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
9 Corn Belt States	1,000						
Cattle and calves	head	1,378	1,492	306	192	347	
Sheep and lambs	do.	1,662	1,528	510	194	507	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	7,663	8,157	1,064	1,100	1,135	
Calves	do.	3,311	3,164	422	430	426	
Sheep and lambs	do.	6,413	7,737	889	908	1,020	
Hogs	do.	38,563	39,646	4,236	3,641	3,592	
Percentage sows	Percent						
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	996	998	962	987	974	
Calves	do.	197	209	250	236	258	
Sheep and lambs	do.	99	99	95	90	93	
Hogs	do.	252	246	262	265	254	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	553	557	527	550	539	
Veal, per head	do.	112	118	140	133	143	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	47	47	45	43	43	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	140	137	146	145	141	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	55	55	56	55	56	
Lard, per head	do.	37	37	38	39	36	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	do.	15	15	14	15	14	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	4,214	4,523	558	602	609	
Veal	do.	368	373	59	57	61	
Lamb and mutton	do.	300	363	39	39	44	
Pork 2/	do.	5,352	5,374	615	526	507	
Lard	do.	1,423	1,470	159	142	128	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000						
Cattle	head	10,562	11,153	1,507	1,498	1,542	
Calves	do.	5,561	5,447	726	719	724	
Sheep and lambs	do.	7,026	8,493	1,006	1,025	1,142	
Hogs	do.	47,498	49,461	5,318	4,659	4,644	
Total production	Million						
Beef	pounds	5,596	5,942	767	786	795	
Veal	do.	620	638	98	94	101	
Lamb and mutton	do.	326	394	44	43	49	
Pork 2/	do.	6,490	6,594	753	654	637	
Lard	do.	1,641	1,718	184	168	155	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	87	190	161	157
Veal	do.	---	---	7	12	10	11
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	6	15	12	11
Pork	do.	---	---	496	685	543	402
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	701	1,029	850	693

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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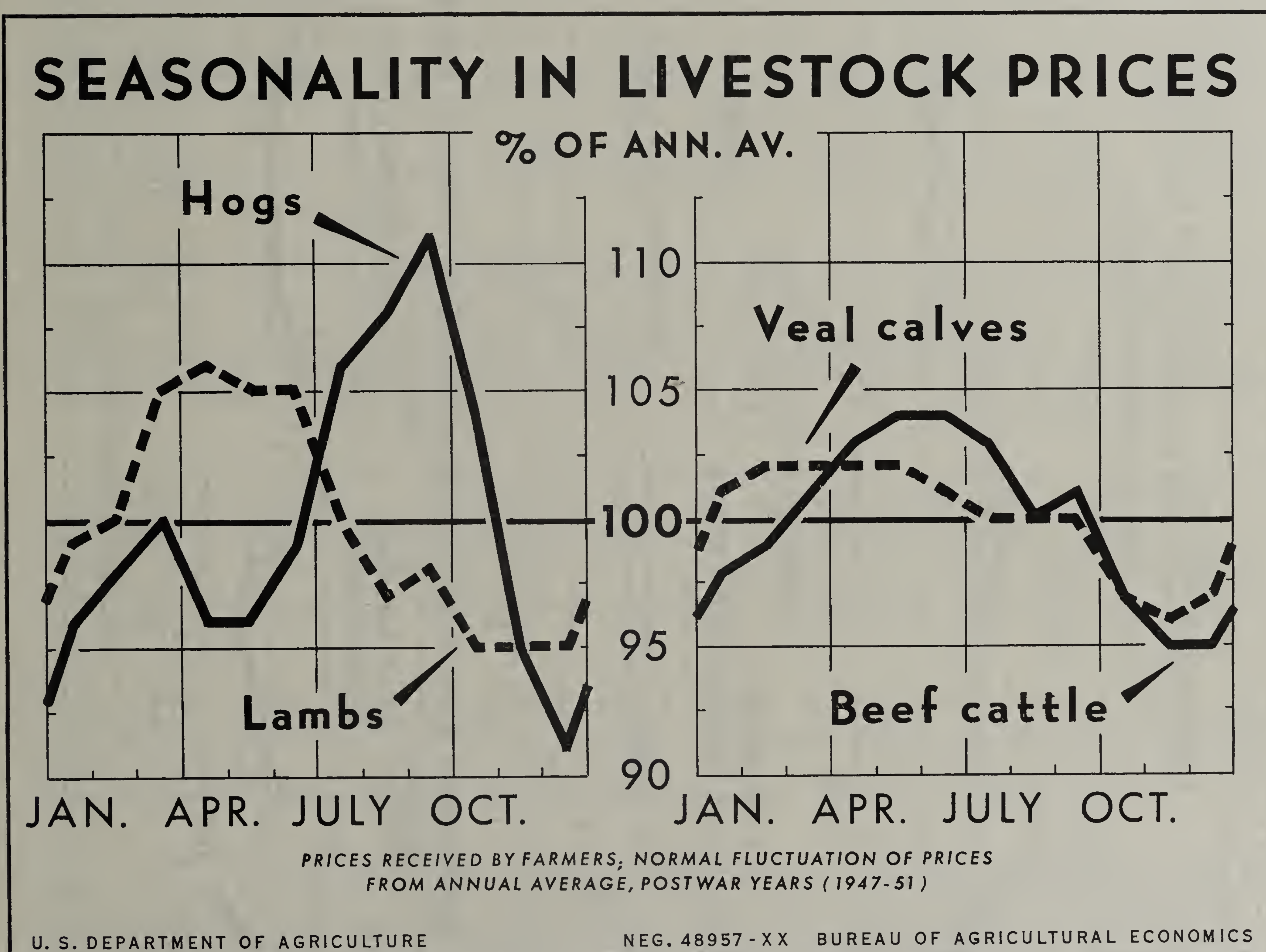
JAN. 12, P. M.

THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

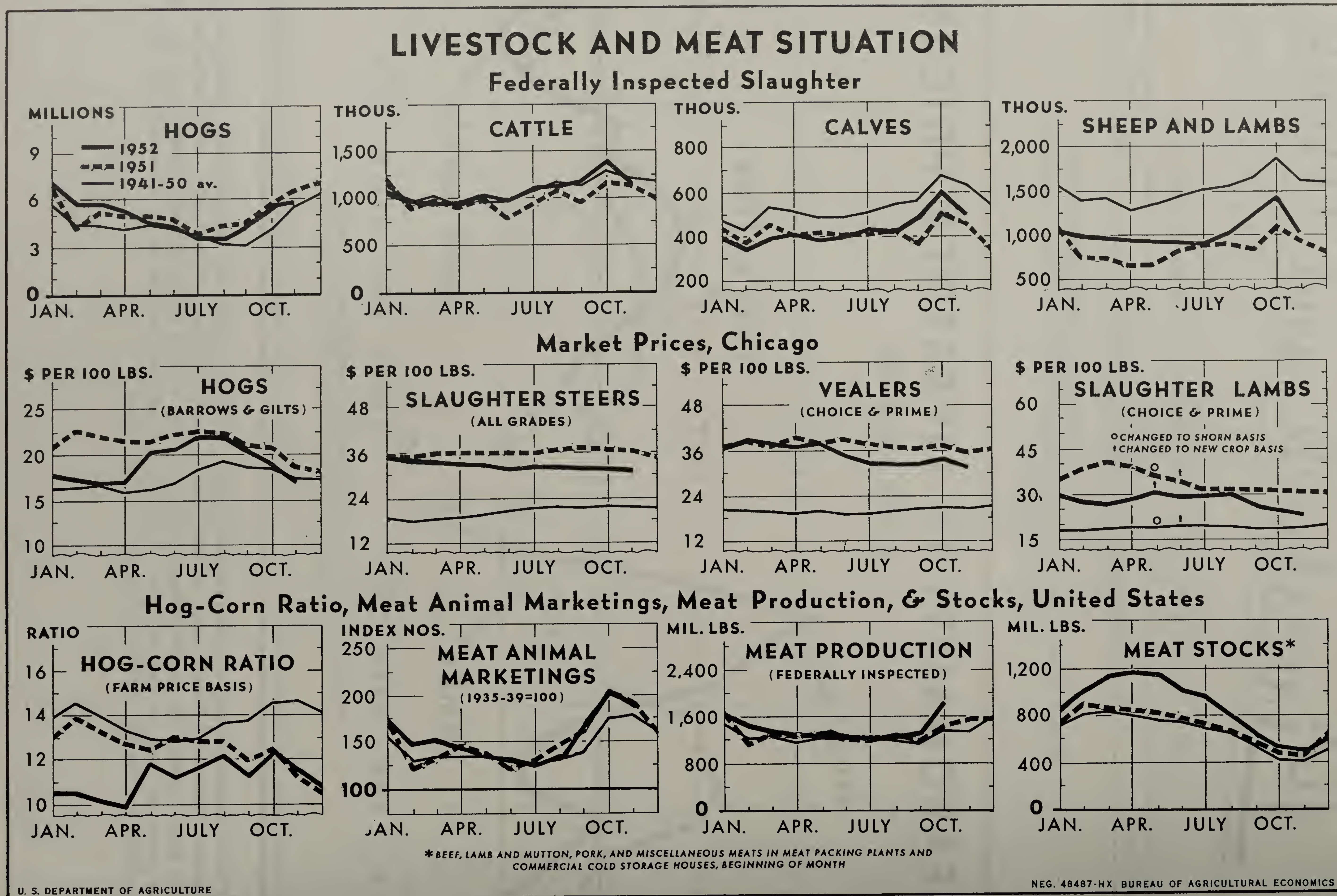
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-63 BAE NOV.-DEC. 1952

In this issue:
- Seasonality in Marketings and Prices of Meat Animals.
- Profits from 4 Different Cattle Feeding Programs.
- Index to 1952 Issues.



Prices farmers receive for meat animals follow characteristic seasonal patterns more or less closely each year. Usually the biggest seasonal changes are in prices for hogs, lambs and sheep. Prices for veal calves and for all beef cattle change less by seasons. However, seasonal price swings for individual classes of beef cattle differ somewhat from the average for all classes shown here. (See table 5 of text for indexes of seasonality by grade and class.)


LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION
Federally Inspected Slaughter
MILLIONS
HOGS
1952
1951
1941-50 av.
9
6
3
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CATTLE
1,500
1,000
500
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
CALVES
800
600
400
200
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
THOUS.
SHEEP AND LAMBS
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Market Prices, Chicago
$ PER 100 LBS.
HOGS
(BARROWS & GILTS)
25
20
15
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER STEERS
(ALL GRADES)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
VEALERS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
48
36
24
12
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
$ PER 100 LBS.
SLAUGHTER LAMBS
(CHOICE & PRIME)
o CHANGED TO SHORN BASIS
† CHANGED TO NEW CROP BASIS
60
45
30
15
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
Hog-Corn Ratio, Meat Animal Marketings, Meat Production, & Stocks, United States
RATIO
HOG-CORN RATIO
(FARM PRICE BASIS)
16
14
12
10
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
INDEX NOS.
MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS
(1935-39=100)
250
200
150
100
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT PRODUCTION
(FEDERALLY INSPECTED)
2,400
1,600
800
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
MIL. LBS.
MEAT STOCKS*
1,200
800
400
0
JAN. APR. JULY OCT.
*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK, AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48487-HX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, November 23, 1952

SUMMARY

The decline in meat animal prices since last spring is resulting in a sharp reduction in hog production. Farmers indicated on December 1 that they intend to have 13 percent fewer sows farrow in the spring of 1953 than last spring. With the 1952 fall pig crop 11 percent smaller than a year earlier, pork production in 1953 may drop 12 to 15 percent below both 1951 and 1952.

Beef production, on the other hand, will continue upward in 1953. Even though slaughter of cattle increased a great deal in the last few months, the number of cattle and calves on farms probably rose about 5 million head during 1952. With more on farms, slaughter of cattle and calves will be considerably larger in 1953 than in 1952. Assuming average grazing and feed conditions, the year's total may be up nearly 15 percent from 1952. Despite such an increase, however, the number of cattle on farms would rise somewhat further during the year.

The increase in beef and veal production seems likely to about offset the decline in pork and total meat output in 1953 is expected to be about the same as in 1952. However, production will depend a good deal on the weather. Good grazing and feed conditions would reduce cattle slaughter and the meat supply while poor conditions would have the opposite effect.

Meat production increased more than usual this fall and output in October-December was a near-record for the quarter. To some extent, the meat supply this fall was increased at the expense of output in 1953. A larger proportion of the spring pig crop was marketed before the Christmas-New Year holidays this winter than last and dry weather speeded marketing of cattle.

The larger meat production was a major factor in price declines. In mid-December prices received by farmers for meat animals averaged 26 percent below last May. Prices for beef cattle, calves, hogs and lambs were at the lowest levels since before the Korean outbreak.

Meat production this winter is expected to decrease seasonally and to total about the same as last winter. There will be more beef and veal but less pork. Output of lamb, now above a year ago, probably will drop below corresponding 1952 levels.

Prices of hogs this winter will likely rise seasonally and average considerably higher than in either early December or last winter. Prices for medium and lower quality cattle have been depressed by large supplies and sluggish demand. No marked improvement appears in prospect for this winter, but seasonal increases are more likely by late winter and spring. The higher grades of cattle, while maintaining a fairly wide price spread over lower grades, may decline seasonally through spring. Price trends for cattle later in the year will be governed by grazing and feed conditions. If favorable conditions prevent excessive marketings, prices probably will prove more stable in the second half of 1953 than in 1952.

For all of 1953, prices of hogs probably will average higher than in 1952. Cattle are likely to average lower and lambs about the same. Prices of hogs have been low relative to prices of cattle for the last several years but will improve their position in 1953.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Fall Livestock Slaughter Large

Livestock slaughter was large this past fall. Slaughter of cattle, calves and sheep was considerably above the fall of 1951 and slaughter of hogs was nearly as large. Total production of meat under Federal inspection in October-December nearly equaled the 1943 record for the quarter.

Several developments caused the high level of slaughter and meat production. Because of drought in the Great Plains, cattle slaughter increased more during the fall than it would have if weather had been better. Considerably more lambs were marketed for slaughter than in the previous year as fewer were held for feeding or to expand breeding herds. Commercial hog slaughter in August-November was only 6 percent below a year earlier, even though 9 percent fewer pigs were saved last spring than the previous spring. On December 1, 15 percent fewer spring-crop hogs (6 months old or over) than a year earlier remained on farms. Thus a larger part of the spring pig crop was marketed before Christmas this year than last. Earlier marketings resulted from the high percentage of early farrowings for the spring pig crop together with efforts by producers to market before the heavy seasonal runs. Their losses in holding hogs for January-February sale last winter discouraged them from repeating the practice this year.

Meat Output to Show Little if Any Increase this Winter over Last

Livestock slaughter and meat production this winter will not continue so much above a year earlier as it was during the fall, and might total a little less than last winter. Hog slaughter will decrease more than usual. It will at times be substantially smaller than last winter since much of the spring pig crop has already been marketed. With fewer lambs on feed, sheep and lamb slaughter will drop below the level of last winter.

Cattle and calf slaughter, on the other hand, will continue above last year. Slaughter of lower grade stock will decrease seasonally but will probably continue large. There are still some producers in range and pasture areas who lack feed and may be forced to market a considerable number of their cattle. Moreover, the uncertain price situation may hasten marketings of cattle as some producers become discouraged from holding their cattle any longer. Similarly, many fed cattle will be marketed after comparatively short terms of feeding. Marketings of medium quality short-fed cattle have been large recently because cattle that went on feed in summer and early fall have been moved to slaughter after only a short feeding period. Substantial marketings of cattle of this type will probably continue through most of the winter.

It is likely that a smaller proportion of all fed cattle will be marketed at the Choice and Prime grades this winter than last. This is probable despite the wider price margins for top grades, because (1) a large number of medium quality cattle are on feed; (2) the weakening market will cause a good many farmers to sell before top quality is reached; (3) feed is more expensive relative to cattle prices now than a year ago. Already the percentage of Good, Commercial and Utility is up sharply, and of Choice and Prime is lower.

Slaughter of all fed cattle this year will exceed last year, since more cattle are on feed.

Hog and Lamb Slaughter in 1953 to be Below 1952

About the same number of hogs were slaughtered in 1952 as in 1951. Slaughter was maintained despite fewer hogs raised because some came from the 1951 pig crops, because more sows and gilts were slaughtered as breeding herds were reduced, and because more of the spring pigs were marketed before year's end.

Throughout 1953, however, fewer hogs will be slaughtered than in 1952. The 1952 fall pig crop was 11 percent smaller than the 1951 fall crop. The number of sows farrowing was down 12 percent, but the average size of litter was up to 6.65 pigs, a record high. Furthermore, producers' intentions are for a 13 percent reduction from last spring in the number of sows to farrow this coming spring.

In both the 1952 fall crop and 1953 spring intentions all regions showed sizable reductions. (Tables 1 and 2.)

These cutbacks, coming after a 10 percent reduction in pig crops in 1952, amount to a substantial drop below the high 1951 level of hog production. The prospective 1953 spring pig crop would be the smallest spring crop since 1938.

As a result of the fewer pigs raised, hog slaughter in 1953 may be down 12 to 15 percent from 1952.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs in 1953 also will likely total less than in 1952. Slaughter early in the year may drop to considerably below 1952. It could approach 1952 levels more closely later, unless fall slaughter should be held down in order to rebuild sheep herds--which seems unlikely. Numbers of sheep and lambs on farms were reduced during 1952 after having increased in 1950 and 1951. They are not expected to change much in 1953.

1953 Meat Output Expected to Differ Little from 1952

The large cattle slaughter this fall was far from sufficient to halt the upswing in cattle numbers on farms, which may have gone up about 5 million head during 1952 to a new record on January 1, 1953.

Table 1.- Sows farrowed, pigs saved and pigs saved per litter, spring and fall pig crops, United States, by regions, 1947 to date

Year	North Atlantic	North Central		South Atlantic	South Central	Western	United States
		East	West				
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
				Spring Pig Crop			
				Sows farrowed			
1947	159	2,311	4,230	639	979	230	8,548
1948	153	2,111	3,718	608	987	256	7,833
1949	165	2,394	4,319	633	1,053	256	8,820
1950	145	2,554	4,568	631	1,048	228	9,174
1951	153	2,625	4,855	683	1,026	249	9,591
1952 1/	157	2,442	4,056	721	912	216	8,504
1953 2/	136	2,207	3,646	616	640	150	7,395
				Pigs saved			
1947	1,029	14,265	25,812	3,790	5,857	1,446	52,199
1948	1,010	14,052	24,062	3,714	6,030	1,600	50,468
1949	1,107	15,909	27,835	3,909	6,570	1,639	56,969
1950	920	16,177	28,905	3,971	6,534	1,428	57,935
1951	1,016	17,238	31,463	4,273	6,430	1,587	62,007
1952 1/	1,072	16,421	27,095	4,601	5,899	1,342	56,430
1953 2/							48,000
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1947	6.48	6.17	6.10	5.93	5.98	6.27	6.11
1948	6.58	6.65	6.47	6.11	6.11	6.26	6.44
1949	6.73	6.65	6.44	6.17	6.24	6.39	6.46
1950	6.36	6.33	6.33	6.29	6.23	6.26	6.31
1951	6.63	6.57	6.48	6.26	6.27	6.38	6.47
1952 1/	6.83	6.72	6.68	6.38	6.47	6.23	6.64
				Fall Pig Crop			
				Sows farrowed			
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1947	121	1,557	1,530	583	901	174	4,866
1948	126	1,609	1,690	551	904	190	5,070
1949	123	1,800	1,941	565	951	188	5,568
1950	119	1,970	2,183	561	924	166	5,923
1951	126	1,991	2,237	610	879	189	6,032
1952 1/	118	1,795	2,012	566	684	143	5,318
				Pigs saved			
1947	831	10,199	9,732	3,584	5,627	1,117	31,090
1948	865	10,917	11,184	3,452	5,717	1,223	33,358
1949	831	11,925	12,694	3,531	6,059	1,235	36,275
1950	815	13,289	14,674	3,552	5,998	1,076	39,404
1951	872	13,346	14,690	3,968	5,704	1,224	39,804
1952 1/	818	12,064	13,490	3,623	4,420	940	35,355
				Pigs saved per litter			
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1947	6.82	6.55	6.36	6.14	6.25	6.45	6.39
1948	6.88	6.78	6.62	6.27	6.32	6.43	6.58
1949	6.77	6.62	6.54	6.25	6.37	6.55	6.52
1950	6.83	6.74	6.72	6.33	6.49	6.50	6.65
1951	6.92	6.70	6.57	6.51	6.49	6.47	6.60
1952 1/	6.97	6.72	6.70	6.40	6.46	6.56	6.65

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Number indicated to farrow from breeding intentions as of December 1, 1952. Average number of pigs per litter with allowance for trend used to calculate indicated number of pigs saved.

Revised December 1, 1952.

Table 2.- Number of sows farrowing and percentage distribution by months, fall season, United States, 1947 to date

Year	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
	Number of sows farrowing						
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
1947	640	552	1,000	1,501	833	340	4,866
1948	727	570	985	1,525	871	392	5,070
1949	731	618	1,172	1,760	901	386	5,568
1950	710	610	1,285	1,891	1,004	423	5,923
1951	819	673	1,350	1,827	987	376	6,032
1952	816	663	1,218	1,573	741	307	5,318
	Percent of total sows farrowing						
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1947	13.2	11.3	20.6	30.8	17.1	7.0	100.0
1948	14.3	11.3	19.4	30.1	17.2	7.7	100.0
1949	13.1	11.1	21.1	31.6	16.2	6.9	100.0
1950	12.0	10.3	21.7	31.9	17.0	7.1	100.0
1951	13.6	11.1	22.4	30.3	16.4	6.2	100.0
1952	15.3	12.5	22.9	29.6	13.9	5.8	100.0

Cattle slaughter for 1953 will total considerably above 1952 slaughter. The extent of the increase in the summer and fall, and therefore for the year as a whole, will be governed by grazing and feed conditions. In the event of favorable range and feed, the year's total cattle and calf slaughter will probably be increased moderately -- close to 15 percent. Total meat production would in this case approximately equal 1952 production, since the increase for cattle and calves would about offset the decrease in hogs. (See table 3.) Consumption per person would be down a little because the population is larger.

If the condition of ranges and pastures should be unfavorable, slaughter of cattle would rise substantially in 1953, and meat production would be larger. Especially favorable conditions, on the other hand, would lead to less increase in cattle slaughter, and to a smaller total meat output than in 1952.

Prices Below Last Year

Prices of every class of livestock in recent months have been lower than a year before. Differences at mid-December ranged from $1.50 per 100 pounds for barrows and gilts (at Chicago) to about $10.00 for Commercial cows and for feeder cattle and lambs. Prices have been relatively lowest for cows, feeder cattle, lower grades of slaughter steers and heifers, and sheep and lambs.

Prices received by farmers for meat animals at mid-December averaged 26 percent below last May. Only part of the decline was seasonal. December prices for beef cattle, calves, hogs and lambs were lower than at any time since the Korean outbreak.

Table 3.- Production and consumption per person of red meat and poultry, United States, annual 1945-52 and forecast for 1953

Year	Red Meats: Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork excluding lard	Total	Poultry meat 1/
	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.	Mil.lb.
	Production 2/					
1945	10,276	1,664	1,054	10,697	23,691	4,816
1946	9,373	1,445	968	11,150	22,934	4,323
1947	10,432	1,605	799	10,502	23,338	4,067
1948	9,076	1,423	747	10,055	21,300	3,798
1949	9,439	1,334	603	10,266	21,682	4,521
1950	9,538	1,230	597	10,714	22,079	4,797
1951	8,843	1,061	522	11,483	21,909	5,393
1952 3/	9,625	1,160	640	11,575	23,000	5,675
1953 4/	10,850	1,300	600	10,000	22,750	5,750
	Consumption per person					
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1945	59.0	11.8	7.3	66.2	144.3	32.9
1946	61.3	9.9	6.6	75.4	153.2	30.2
1947	69.1	10.8	5.3	69.1	154.3	27.9
1948	62.7	9.5	5.0	67.4	144.6	26.8
1949	63.5	8.8	4.1	67.3	143.7	29.2
1950	63.0	8.0	3.9	68.6	143.5	31.3
1951	56.1	6.6	3.4	71.5	137.6	34.0
1952 3/	61.5	7.1	4.1	72.5	145.	35.1
1953 4/	68.	8.0	3.8	62.	141-142	35.7

1/ Chicken, including commercial broilers, and turkey.
2/ Production of red meats is carcass weight equivalent of production from total United States slaughter.
3/ Preliminary indications. Revised from original forecasts.
4/ Forecast.

This table corrects table 1 of the Livestock and Meat Situation for Sept.-Oct. 1952, and revises estimates for 1952 and forecasts for 1953.

Table 4.- Meat consumption per person by quarter years, 1949 to date

Period	Beef	Veal	Lamb and mutton	Pork 1/	Total
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1949					
Jan.-Mar.	15.9	2.0	1.2	17.7	36.8
Apr.-June	15.9	2.1	0.8	15.9	34.7
July-Sept.	16.6	2.4	1.0	14.8	34.8
Oct.-Dec.	15.1	2.3	1.1	18.9	37.4
Year	63.5	8.8	4.1	67.3	143.7
1950					
Jan.-Mar.	15.6	1.9	1.0	18.4	36.9
Apr.-June	15.5	2.0	1.0	16.4	34.9
July-Sept.	16.2	2.1	1.0	14.9	34.2
Oct.-Dec.	15.7	2.0	0.9	18.9	37.5
Year	63.0	8.0	3.9	68.6	143.5
1951					
Jan.-Mar.	14.5	1.6	0.9	18.2	35.2
Apr.-June	13.2	1.5	0.8	17.1	32.6
July-Sept.	14.6	1.8	0.8	16.4	33.6
Oct.-Dec.	13.8	1.7	0.9	19.8	36.2
Year	56.1	6.6	3.4	71.5	137.6
1952					
Jan.-Mar.	14.3	1.5	1.0	19.5	36.3
Apr.-June	14.5	1.5	1.0	16.8	33.8
July-Sept.	16.5	2.0	1.0	16.6	36.1
Oct.-Dec.					
Year 3/	61.5	7.1	4.1	72.5	145

1/ Excluding lard.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Tentative indications, as rounded slightly.

Increase in Supply of
Medium to Lower Quality
Beef finding Market Sluggish

The biggest declines in cattle prices have been in the medium and lower quality of cattle. The increase in marketings of cattle of these grades has been substantial but not extremely large. One reason prices have adjusted so sharply from their high 1951 level is that breeders and feeders have shown less interest in buying replacement cattle. However, also contributing to the price break is a slow response of merchandiser and consumer demand to the larger supplies of the medium and lower quality beef.

During the last several years when cattle herds were being expanded, relatively few cows and grass cattle were marketed. An unusually large part of slaughter consisted of high quality fed steers. Responding to the kind of beef supply available, merchandisers developed outlets for the higher grades. Choice and Prime beef and veal were frequently featured.

Now that the cattle cycle is swinging to the phase of increased marketings, the supply of medium and lower quality beef is rising. But it is not finding a ready market. The potential demand is probably as large as ever, but it will not be fully expressed until both merchandising procedures and consumer attention are focused somewhat more on beef and veal of a wider range of quality.

Hog Prices Seasonally Higher

Prices of hogs have increased since mid-December. Prospects are for them to rise somewhat more this winter and to average higher than in early December and higher than last winter. Prices of lambs, cows, and lower grade steers seem likely to continue under pressure but to strengthen somewhat by late winter or early spring, and prices of top quality fed cattle to decline seasonally.

Last winter and spring hog prices declined steadily until early April. This was an unusual trend for the season, and it is not likely to be repeated this winter. It is possible that hog prices will average as high or higher than a year before during most or all of 1953. Slaughter will be much smaller, and less pork will be on hand in cold storage. Stocks of pork on December 1 were 18 percent below the previous December. Only the large cattle slaughter in prospect will tend to prevent greatly increased hog prices in 1953.

Prices of lambs last winter were depressed primarily by the sharp step-up in the supply of slaughter lambs out of feedlots. With fewer fed lambs this winter, prices may rise somewhat seasonally.

Inasmuch as sizable marketings will continue, no great improvement in prices of cows and lower grade steers and heifers is expected in early to mid-winter. This is especially likely if producers continue to be discouraged by the general price outlook and choose not to hold back on marketings. However, a/seasonal increase is likely as the spring pasture season nears.

Cattle feeding in the Corn Belt this winter is of record volume. Consequently, large marketings will probably bring a seasonal decline in fed cattle prices. Until late winter, downward pressure may continue greatest on the medium grades, while the top grades maintain a considerable price margin. But seasonal downtrends for the top grades might extend well into the summer.

Price trends for cattle through the latter part of 1953 will be governed by developments during the year. With supplies of other meats down from 1952, beef will be subject to less price competition. If favorable weather holds the increase in cattle slaughter to moderate size, cattle prices might level out and show more strength by later in the year. However, cattle numbers on farms are so large that any big rise in marketings would probably bring continued price weakness.

USDA Offers to Buy Pork

On December 15 the Department of Agriculture offered to buy substantial quantities of smoked hams, smoked picnics, and bacon, in order to relieve the burdensome supply of pork on the market. Any purchases made will be for delivery during January to April, for distribution to school lunch programs and other eligible outlets.

Canadian Border to be Opened March 1

Imports of livestock and meat from Canada will be permitted after March 1 if there are no new outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in that country. The border has been closed to these products since February 1952.

Canada has in the past sent both cattle and beef as well as small quantities of other meats to the United States. The greatest part of the cattle have been stockers and feeders. Imports of cattle averaged 452,000 head annually in 1948-50 and were 239,000 in 1951. Average meat imports in 1948-50 were 70 million pounds beef and veal, 5 million pounds of pork, and 3 million pounds of lamb and mutton. In 1951 they were 82 million pounds of beef and veal, 22 million pounds of pork, and 3 million pounds of lamb and mutton.

In general, when trade is resumed it is likely to be at approximately its 1951 level and below 1948-50. No sizable surplus of meat or cattle has backed up in Canada except for some pork in storage. Temporarily somewhat more pork and fat cattle might be shipped than before the embargo. Considering the costs of bringing Canadian cattle into this country, the price advantage for imports is slight. It is likely that fewer feeders than before the embargo will enter from Canada because of the low price for this type of cattle in the United States.

Slaughter Restrictions Removed; Ceiling Eliminated on Certain Sales

In accordance with the policy expressed in the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1952, controls on livestock and meat have been further relaxed or suspended during the last 6 months. Restrictions on registration of new slaughterers were lifted on November 24. This action

followed previous easing of regulations, and ended virtually all control on slaughtering. Anyone wishing to slaughter livestock may now do so by registering with the Office of Price Administration and marking his registration number on the meat produced. Grading and grademarking is still required on beef and veal but not on other meats.

Price ceilings at wholesale on lamb, yearling and mutton were suspended October 29 and on pork products November 24. Sales of these meats at retail and sales of beef at both wholesale and retail are still under price ceilings. Retail ceilings for veal, lamb, mutton and pork are the actual wholesale prices as increased by the percentage mark-up established in the pre-control base period. Retail ceilings for beef are still dollars-and-cents ceilings as specified by the OPS.

Seasonality in Marketings and Prices of Meat Animals

By Harold F. Breimyer and
Lucille W. Johnson

There is a characteristic seasonal pattern in the production and marketing of most kinds of livestock. Basically, spring is the season for births; summer for pasturing; fall for marketing off grass; and fall and winter for feeding. Despite much variation from this sequence, enough uniformity exists for normal seasonal trends to be revealed in statistics of livestock production and marketing.

Data on pig crops, for example, show March and April and September to be the months of most farrowings. More hogs are marketed and slaughtered in November to January than in any other months. Marketings of cattle and sheep are largest in October to December. A peak in slaughter also occurs at that time, though it is lower than the marketing peak because sizable numbers are diverted for feeding.

Meat production also varies by seasons. As meat is not readily storable for long periods and consumer demand is rather inflexible, seasonal changes in the meat supply bring about seasonal swings in prices of meat and meat animals.

Indexes of Seasonal Variation

So important are these changes that it is often helpful to know the most common or typical seasonal pattern. The seasonal indexes for each month presented here were calculated from data for years back to 1921 except for war years, and were adjusted as necessary for trend so as to apply to postwar years. For some series, the seasonal pattern has changed a great deal over the past 30 years. It is for this reason that the most typical seasonality for years since the war was calculated from the 25-year record beginning in 1921. The indexes were derived by the ratio-to-moving average method.

Indexes are presented in table 5. They show the normal value for each month as a percentage of the average for all months of the year. Indexes are calculated here for prices received by farmers for each kind of livestock, for marketings and prices of steers at Chicago, for prices of

several other classes of livestock at Chicago, and for livestock slaughter and meat production under Federal inspection. (Indexes of seasonality for several other statistical series relating to livestock will be published in a future issue of this Situation.)

The normal postwar seasonalities in prices received by farmers are charted on the cover page. Notable is the greater fluctuation each year in prices received for hogs and lambs than for prices of cattle and calves. Prices of hogs are usually at their peak in early fall, while the high points for other livestock come earlier in the year.

The price received by farmers for any kind of livestock is a composite average for all animals sold. The price for hogs is the average price for sows, boars, stags, barrows and gilts. Prices for cattle include those for stockers and feeders, for the lower grade animals sold off grass, and for the top quality fed cattle. The normal seasonal trends in prices for all animals therefore do not indicate accurately the trend for any particular grade or class.

Sow marketings are numerous only during the summer. Hence during most of the year the average price trends for all hogs are essentially the same as for barrows and gilts. Prices are normally highest in September, when marketings of hogs from the spring pig crop have just begun. They are lowest in December, when marketings are largest. Prices touch a secondary peak in March and a secondary low in April-May, due to seasonal swings in marketings of fall pigs.

Prices for lambs are highest in early spring and lowest in the fall. The high prices in the spring reflect partly the better quality of lambs marketed then and their longer fleece.

Prices for all cattle, averaged together, also are highest in the spring and lowest in the fall. This seasonality is in part the result of the better quality of marketings in the spring, when fed cattle are relatively most abundant. However, the high spring prices for lower grade cattle to go on grass also help to lift the average for all cattle prices in the spring months. The indexes in table 5 show wide differences in seasonal variation for prices of cows and Corn Belt steers at Chicago and of stockers and feeders at Kansas City. Cows and stockers and feeders bring their highest prices in the spring and lowest in the fall. The same is true for medium and lower grades of slaughter steers. Prices of Choice and Prime slaughter steers have an opposite pattern, reaching their high in early fall.

Reliability of "Normal" Trends

Actual prices seldom follow a "normal" seasonal pattern. It is important to know how nearly they do so--that is, how reliable the indexes are in describing seasonal price behavior. One way to indicate reliability is to show approximately how closely price movements have followed the average or normal movement in past years. Table 6 and the charts on pages 15 and 17 are designed to do this.

The charts at the top of page 15 shows how widely month-to-month changes in prices received for hogs have departed from the normal change.

Table 5.- Index numbers of normal month-to-month variation in marketings and prices of meat animals 1/

(Data for cover page chart)

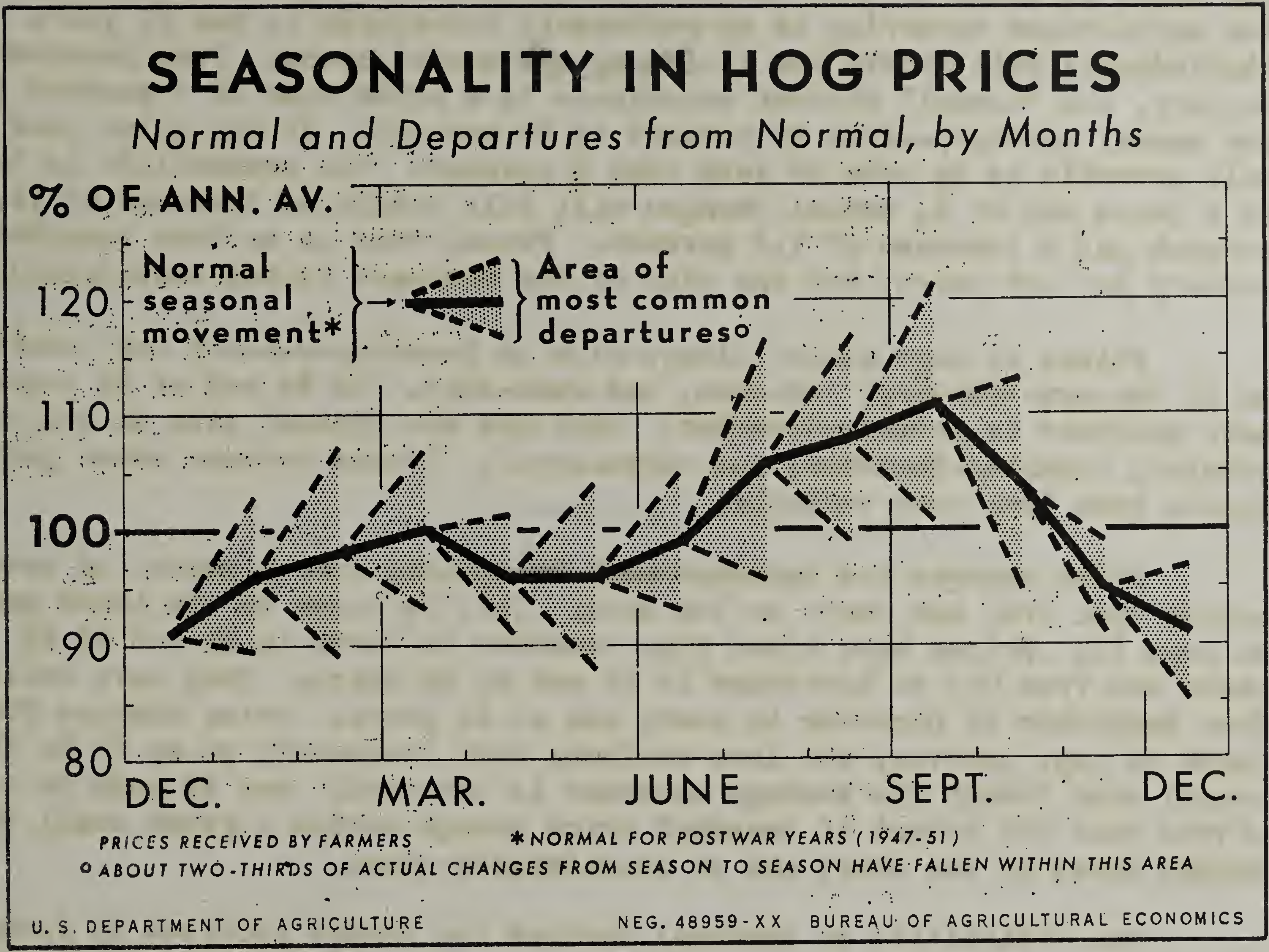
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Prices received by farmers												
Beef cattle	98	99	101	103	104	104	103	100	101	97	95	95
Veal calves	101	102	102	102	102	101	100	100	100	97	96	97
Sheep	98	104	108	108	106	101	97	96	96	96	95	95
Lambs	99	100	105	106	105	105	100	97	98	95	95	95
Hogs	96	98	100	96	96	99	106	108	111	104	95	91
Central market prices												
Beef slaughter steers at Chicago 2/												
Prime	104	98	97	96	94	96	98	101	104	104	104	104
Choice	98	96	96	95	97	100	103	104	105	104	102	100
Av. Good & Commercial	98	97	99	100	102	103	105	101	101	99	97	98
Utility	99	99	104	105	107	106	101	97	96	93	96	97
Slaughter cows at Chicago												
Canner & cutter	100	101	103	105	108	105	102	99	98	94	92	93
Commercial	95	96	102	104	108	107	105	101	100	95	94	93
Utility	98	99	103	106	109	107	102	98	98	94	93	93
Stocker & feeder steers at Kansas City												
Good & Choice	98	99	102	103	105	103	102	101	100	96	95	96
Medium & Common	98	101	105	105	108	103	100	99	98	94	94	95
Feeder lambs at Omaha												
Good & Choice	103	104	106				96	97	99	99	98	98
Market receipts												
Receipts of Corn Belt beef steers at Chicago 3/												
Prime	50	32	45	60	84	136	165	162	143	133	112	78
Choice	95	81	110	119	130	112	98	103	91	92	88	81
Good & Commercial	141	140	144	135	118	77	64	68	59	61	80	113
Utility	130	114	122	116	91	72	74	80	87	89	98	127
Slaughter & meat production												
Number head slaughtered under Federal inspection 3/												
Cattle	103	87	94	90	97	96	98	105	108	114	106	102
Calves	94	85	105	102	101	100	97	99	101	112	108	96
Sheep & lambs	108	91	90	83	88	95	98	105	112	121	106	103
Hogs	131	94	99	92	93	91	75	73	80	104	129	139
Production of meat under Federal inspection 3/												
Beef	105	89	98	94	98	96	98	104	106	108	102	102
Veal	89	77	90	89	95	100	104	111	113	125	113	94
Lamb & mutton	111	95	97	91	92	92	93	101	107	116	103	102
Pork, excl. lard	130	94	97	91	94	97	85	79	78	99	120	136

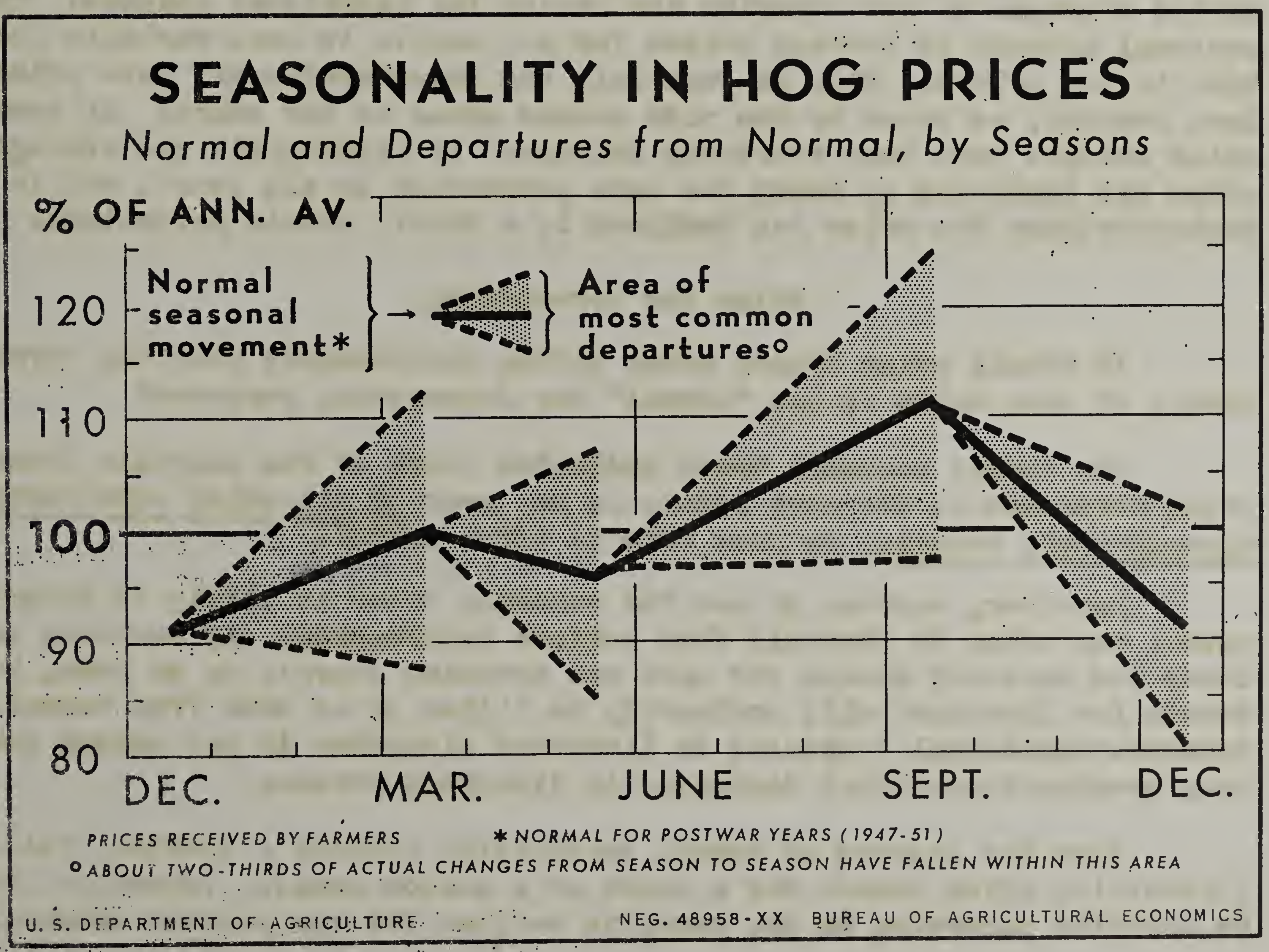
1/ Normal for postwar years. 2/ Corn Belt steers sold out of first hands. Grade names are those in use since January 1951. 3/ Part of month-to-month variation in total volume is due to difference in length of month.

Table 6.- Standard deviation about normal of actual month-to-month and seasonal changes in prices received by farmers for meat animals

Meat animal	Dec.-Jan.	Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-March	March-April	April-May	May-June	June-July	July-Aug.	Aug.-Sept.	Sept.-Oct.	Oct.-Nov.	Nov.-Dec.
Month-to-month changes												
Beef cattle	4.09	4.30	2.83	1.73	3.57	2.56	5.96	3.05	3.84	2.83	2.89	3.27
Veal calves	3.02	4.83	2.85	2.10	2.36	2.75	3.88	1.89	3.01	2.77	1.78	2.97
Sheep	4.54	6.24	4.63	3.44	4.76	4.06	4.07	3.25	3.61	3.18	3.29	2.34
Lambs	5.62	6.18	5.05	3.60	3.78	4.71	3.67	3.42	3.83	3.38	2.06	2.51
Hogs	6.59	9.03	6.87	5.17	8.05	5.79	10.59	8.69	10.35	9.25	4.26	5.92
		Dec.-March		March-May			May-Sept.				Sept.-Dec.	
Seasonal changes												
Hogs		12.03		11.07			13.61				10.79	

1/ Deviation of ratios to moving average from trend value for "normal" seasonality.


SEASONALITY IN HOG PRICES
Normal and Departures from Normal, by Months
% OF ANN. AV.
Normal seasonal movement*
Area of most common departures°
120
110
100
90
80
DEC.
MAR.
JUNE
SEPT.
DEC.
PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS
* NORMAL FOR POSTWAR YEARS (1947-51)
° ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF ACTUAL CHANGES FROM SEASON TO SEASON HAVE FALLEN WITHIN THIS AREA
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 48959-XX
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS


SEASONALITY IN HOG PRICES
Normal and Departures from Normal, by Seasons
% OF ANN. AV.
Normal seasonal movement*
Area of most common departures°
120
110
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MAR.
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PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS
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The chart is drawn so that the most common price changes from one month to the next--those occurring in approximately two-thirds of the 25 years studied--all fall within the limits of the shaded areas. From December to January, the "normal" postwar experience is a price rise of 5 percent (of the annual average)--from 91 percent to 96 percent. In any given year prices will probably go up more or less than 5 percent. The probability is that in 2 years out of 3, actual changes will fall within an increase of 11.6 percent and a decrease of 1.6 percent. Prices thus go up from December to January in most years, but the size of the increase varies considerably.

Prices of hogs almost always rise in December-January and usually do so in January-February, May-June, and June-July. In 24 out of 25 years they have declined in October-November. Declines are typical also in September-October, November-December, and March-April. Trends between other pairs of months have been more variable.

Price changes are somewhat more consistent over a season of several months than from one month to the next. This is shown in the lower chart on page 15. Prices have risen from December to March in 21 out of 25 years and from May to September in 22 out of 25 years. They have fallen from September to December in every one of 25 years. Price changes from March to May, however, are less uniform; they frequently go up (8 in 25 years) even though the average movement is downward. And it must be admitted that the extent of seasonal price change varies a great deal; the shaded areas of the chart are of considerable size.

The reliability of seasonal indexes for prices received by farmers for beef cattle can be indicated in the same way. (See chart, p. 17.) Indexes for beef cattle are not as useful as those for hogs, because the all-cattle averages do not describe the trends for individual classes. The seasonal pattern in average prices for all cattle is less variable than that in hog prices. Only in June-July and December-January have price changes been erratic, as shown by the wide shaded areas in the chart. At some months price changes have been extremely uniform. In March-April the average cattle price has increased by about the same percentage in all years, and in September-October the price has declined by a fairly stable percentage.

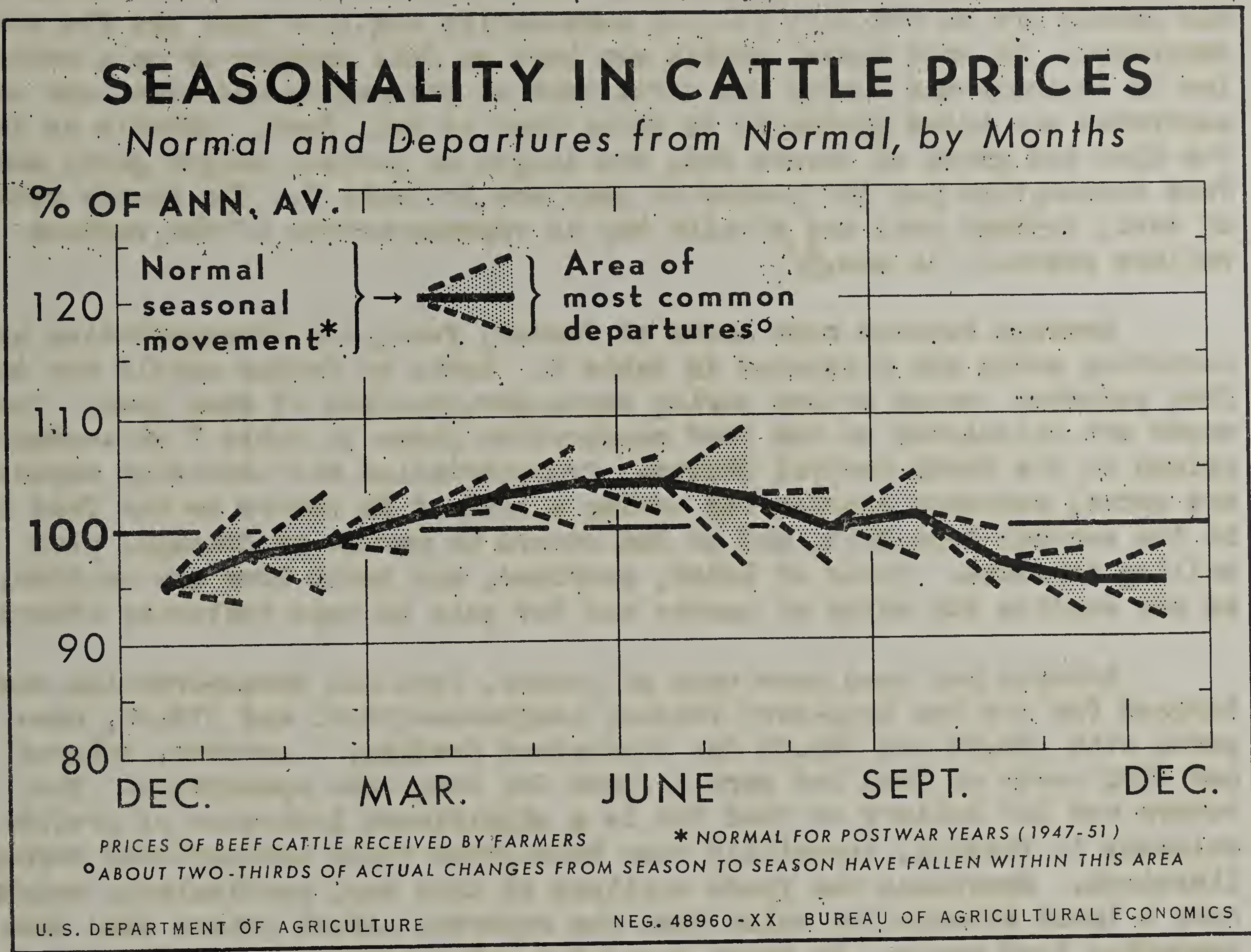
Value for Forecasting

If actual price trends often differ considerably from the normal trend, of what value is the "normal" for forecasting purposes?

The normal seasonal trend indicates which of the possible future price movements is the most likely in any year <u>if all other conditions are approximately normal</u>. To know this is often useful.

Moreover, whether or not the seasonal trend is likely to depart from normal can often be foretold from outlook information. If business conditions and consumer demand for meat are trending sharply up or down, price trends for livestock will ordinarily be tilted up or down from normal. Greater-than-normal increases in livestock slaughter in any season generally mean greater-than-normal decreases in livestock prices.

Thus the indexes of normal seasonality provide a starting point in forecasting price trends for a month or a season ahead. Forecasts then can be modified according to the specific outlook for the current season.



Profits from 4 Different Cattle Feeding Programs

by Earl E. Miller

In four of the past six feeding seasons cattle feeding has been profitable. During most of the 6-year period prices were generally increasing, with the result that relatively higher profits per head were made in long-term than in short-term feeding. However, in the 1951-52 feeding season when prices were easing off, profits from short-term and long-term feeding were more nearly equal.

These and other conclusions are drawn from an analysis of costs and returns for four Corn Belt cattle feeding programs as calculated for the last six years. The standard programs studied were based on reports of cattle feeding in Illinois during the 1945-46 to 1949-50 seasons as adapted to more general Corn Belt conditions.1/

The programs are typical of the Corn Belt but do not cover the wide variations in the practices of individual feeders. In each of the four examples, the calves or steers are placed on feed in the fall. The feeding period is considered to be 11 months for long-fed calves, 10 months for long-fed yearlings, 7 months for short-fed yearlings, and

1/ Twelfth Annual Report of Feeder Cattle, University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, September 1951, and earlier reports.

6 months for short-fed heavy steers. These periods refer to the total time the cattle are on the farm and not necessarily the time they are fed concentrates. In most cases, cattle are kept on fall pasture or on a ration low in concentrates during the first part of the period and then more concentrates are added gradually to bring them to full feed. Details as to the kind and grade of steers fed, the length of period, weight gain, and feed consumption per 100 pounds of gain are in table 7. The simple ration of corn, soybean meal and alfalfa hay is representative of the various rations actually in use.[2]

Average returns over costs of feeder, feed, and transportation and marketing costs are presented in table 8. Costs of feeder cattle are taken from reported market prices during September-November of each year. Feed costs are calculated on the feed consumption given in table 7 at average prices in the North Central States. Transportation and marketing expenses are actual computed charges for moving a load of 25 steers to the feed lot in the central Corn Belt, and of fed steers to market at Chicago, plus selling expenses. Costs of labor, overhead, and death loss are omitted, as are credits for value of manure and for gain on hogs following steers.

Returns per head over cost of feeder, feed and transportation were largest for the two long-term feeding programs--$65.00 and $76.00, compared with $38.00 and $44.00 for short-term feeding. Moreover, returns per $100 worth of feed fed were highest for long-term operations. The return per 100 dollars of feed fed is a significant indicator of profitableness in feeding, especially when home-grown feeds are marketed through livestock. Sometimes the feeds utilized in this way, particularly roughages, have a lower alternative value than the reported market prices used here in computing feed costs. In these cases the net earnings of the farm are increased more than the calculated profits from feeding would show.

Omitting costs of labor, overhead, and death loss makes the longer term feeding programs appear more profitable than they actually are, since those three cost items are higher for long-term than short-term feeding. Nevertheless, even after allowance for these extra costs the long-term operations yielded the greater profits the last 6 years, because price relationships and trends during that time favored them.

It costs less to put 100 pounds of gain on a calf than a mature animal. (Table 8.) Because of this difference, feeders are willing to pay a higher price per pound for feeder calves than for feeder steers. They often pay as much or more per pound than they expect to receive for the same animals when sold as fat steers. Thus one feature of feeding calves is that most or all the profits have to come from the low cost of gain. In the last 6 years, as shown by table 9, 70 percent of the profit from calf feeding came from the net returns over feed cost. In a period less marked by increasing prices, this percentage would be even higher.

Yearling feeder steers ordinarily are priced lower per pound than are feeder calves. However, it costs more to put each pound of gain on yearling steers. Consequently, the profit over cost of gain makes up only

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2/ In some areas much corn silage is fed to fattening steers. Rations with silage were not set up separately, but when silage was reported fed by Illinois farmers it was converted into corn equivalent.

Table 7. Weight gain and feed consumption in 4 typical Corn Belt cattle feeding programs 1/

Feeding program	Date bought	Date sold	Feeding period	Grade as feeder	Weight when placed on feed	Grade as slaughter steer when sold 2/	Weight at end of feed	Total gain	Feed consumed per 100 pounds gain: Corn 3/	Supplement 4/	Hay 5/	Pasture
			Months		Pounds		Pounds	Pounds	Bushels	Pounds	Pounds	Days
Calves, long fed	Oct.	Sept.	11	Good and Choice	420	Choice	940	520	9.2	40.4	385	13.5
Yearlings, long fed	Oct.	Aug.	10	Good and Choice	650	Prime	1100	450	12.0	42.2	400	16.7
Yearlings, short fed	Oct.	May	7	Good	650	Choice	1000	350	12.6	51.4	400	10.0
Heavy steers, short fed	Oct.	April	6	Good	850	Choice-Prime	1150	300	15.7	56.7	333	10.0

1/ Averages derived from annual reports of feeder cattle, University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station.
2/ Not recorded in Illinois reports. Determined from reported selling price.
3/ Includes an allowance for corn silage.
4/ Soybean meal.
5/ Alfalfa hay.

Table 8.- Specified costs and net returns in feeding cattle, 4 Corn Belt programs, average 1946-47 to 1951-52

Feeding program	Purchase price, per 100 lbs. 1/	Selling price, per 100 lbs. 2/	Price margin, per 100 lbs.	Cost per head: Feeder	Cost per head: Feed 3/	Cost per head: Transportation and marketing 4/	Cost per head: Total	Distribution of costs: Feeder	Distribution of costs: Feed	Distribution of costs: Transportation and marketing expense	Distribution of costs: Total	Feed cost per 100 lbs. gain	Value of fed steer at Chicago	Net return, value over cost 5/: per head	Net return, value over cost 5/: per $100 feed fed
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Calves, long fed	26.74	31.78	5.04	112.31	111.91	9.94	234.16	48.0	47.8	4.2	100.0	21.52	298.73	64.57	57.70
Yearlings, long fed	25.62	33.92	8.30	166.53	118.77	11.84	297.14	56.0	40.0	4.0	100.0	26.39	373.12	75.98	63.97
Yearlings, short fed	24.37	30.04	5.67	158.40	93.11	10.99	262.50	60.3	35.5	4.2	100.0	26.60	300.40	37.90	40.70
Heavy steers, short fed	23.98	30.62	6.64	203.83	91.87	12.41	308.11	66.2	29.8	4.0	100.0	30.62	352.13	44.02	47.92

1/ Average September-November price, Kansas City, for weight and grade in table 7.
2/ Three-month average centered on selling date in table 7, Chicago, for appropriate grade.
3/ Computed for feed consumption in table 7.
4/ Based on movement of 25 steers from Kansas City to the Corn Belt and reshipped to Chicago.
5/ Cost of labor, overhead and death loss, and credits for manure and gain on hogs following steers are not included in calculations.

Table 9.- Net return per head over specified costs in feeding cattle, four Corn Belt programs, 1946-7 to 1951-2

Feeding season	Calves, long fed			Yearlings, long fed			Yearlings, short fed			Heavy steers, short fed		
	Net return		Total net return 3/	Net return		Total net return 3/	Net return		Total net return 3/	Net return		Total net return 3/
	From price increase 1/	Over cost of gain 2/		From price increase 1/	Over cost of gain 2/		From price increase 1/	Over cost of gain 2/		From price increase 1/	Over cost of gain 2/	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1946-47	50.45	28.91	79.36	92.71	14.83	107.54	51.30	- 7.73	43.57	70.12	- 15.51	54.61
1947-48	52.62	31.07	83.69	106.34	14.78	121.12	64.16	-23.07	41.09	67.31	- 45.80	21.51
1948-49	2.37	43.50	45.87	14.08	21.00	85.08	1.02	.48	1.50	2.85	- 11.10	- 8.25
1949-50	22.87	54.49	77.36	55.33	34.19	89.52	46.16	16.43	62.59	73.31	6.24	79.55
1950-51	11.70	69.66	81.36	48.11	44.65	92.76	44.15	26.40	70.55	82.74	13.26	96.00
1951-52	- 24.67	44.41	19.74	- 10.20	20.42	10.22	- 3.30	11.16	7.86	21.38	- .66	20.72
6 year av.-												
Dollars	19.23	45.34	64.57	51.03	24.95	75.98	33.94	3.96	37.90	52.94	- 8.92	44.02
Percent of total	29.8	70.2	100.0	67.2	32.8	100.0	89.6	10.4	100.0	120.3	- 20.3	100.0

1/ Gain (or loss) in value from the higher (or lower) price per 100 pounds received for the fed steer than paid for the feeder. Calculated on initial weight of feeder. Transportation and marketing expenses deducted.
2/ Difference between value of weight put on feeder, as calculated at selling price of fed steer (corrected for marketing expense) and cost of feed fed.
3/ Calculated without allowance for costs of labor, overhead or death loss, or for credits for manure or gain on hogs following steers.

a rather small part of the total net returns from feeding yearling steers. Selling the fed steer at a higher price per pound than was paid--the so-called price margin in feeding--is the source of much of the returns from yearlings. The relative importance of these two items in total net returns often varies widely from one feeding season to the next. In fact, during the past season profits over cost of gain in long feeding yearlings were used in part to offset the loss due to selling at a lower price per pound than was paid.

Ordinarily in feeding every kind of cattle except calves the selling price for the fed steer is higher than the buying price for the feeder. The price margin comes from improving the quality through feeding, and from taking advantage of seasonal changes in price by buying feeder stock at their fall low point.3/

When yearling steers are short-fed, costs of feed become a still smaller part of total costs than in long feeding, and returns over cost of gain are a smaller source of total returns.

In short-feeding of heavy steers the feeder-fed steer price relationships determine the greater part of both costs and profits. In fact, the feed cost for heavy steers per 100 pounds of gain is almost always higher than the value of the gain. In the years studied, it cost $0.80 more to put 100 pounds of gain on heavy steers than their Chicago market price (less marketing expense). The steer-corn price ratio was favorable in those years. Under less favorable ratios, the loss on putting on gain would have been greater. Heavy steer feeding is considered more speculative than other feeding operations because of its greater dependence on favorable price margins as the source of profits.

These data for four feeding programs in 1946-47 to 1951-52 could be used also to show in a rough way the particular conditions under which one kind of feeding is more profitable than another. However, a clearer and more accurate method is to derive from the actual data the calculated effects of certain assumed changes in costs and prices. Table 10 is prepared for this purpose.

Let us assume, for instance, that prices for feeder cattle are lowered, while all other prices and costs are kept the same. Here the short-term feeders stand to gain most. Profits are increased most for them in terms of both dollars per head and percent. Short-term operators, more than any other feeders, must "buy right" if they are to make a profit.

3/ When we divide the total net returns into those from converting feed to weight gain and those from selling at a higher price than was paid we make a distinction that is partly arbitrary. As success in converting feed shows up in the improved quality of the steer as well as its weight gain, it contributes to the price margin. Thus our comparisons probably do not give full credit to the importance of skill in feeding. Nevertheless, the relative differences between programs in make-up of costs and origin of profits that are shown here are approximately correct, even though actual dollar figures are only very roughly so.

Table 10.- Change in net returns from cattle feeding when costs or selling prices are changed

Feeding program	Original net returns per steer 1/	Change in net returns per steer for specified changes 2/: Purchase price of feeder reduced or increased 10 percent	Feed cost reduced or increased 10 percent	Selling price of fed steer increased or decreased: 1 percent per month 3/	Selling price of fed steer increased or decreased: 10 percent
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Calves, long fed	64.57	± 11.21	± 11.19	± 32.91	± 29.87
Yearlings, long fed	75.98	± 16.64	± 11.88	± 37.29	± 37.31
Yearlings, short fed	37.90	± 15.86	± 9.31	± 20.99	± 30.04
Heavy Steers, short fed	44.02	± 20.40	± 9.19	± 21.16	± 35.21
		Percent change in net returns			
		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Calves, long fed	---	± 17.4	± 17.3	± 51.0	± 46.3
Yearlings, long fed	---	± 21.9	± 15.6	± 49.1	± 49.1
Yearlings, short fed	---	± 41.8	± 24.6	± 55.4	± 79.3
Heavy Steers, short fed	---	± 46.3	± 20.9	± 48.1	± 80.0

1/ Average 1946-7 to 1951-2 for 4 Corn Belt programs as shown in tables 8 and 9.

2/ In each case, all other costs and prices remain unchanged from actual 1946-7 to 1951-2 averages.

3/ 11, 10, 7 and 6 percent respectively for the 4 programs.

There is not much difference among the four programs in the benefits from cheaper prices of feed. At lower feed costs, the dollar increase in profits is greatest for longer term feeding, but the percentage increase is highest for short term feeding. In the feeding of heavy steers the feed cost per pound of gain is high, allowing a substantial saving when feed prices decline. This is true even though feed is a relatively small part of total costs.

A one-time, uniform rise in the selling price of fed cattle adds about the same number of dollars to profits from each feeding program, since weights and selling prices per head are nearly alike for all programs. However, the percent increase is greater for the short-term feeding, which is relatively sensitive to price change. This is a way of repeating that short-term feeding, particularly of heavy cattle, tends to be more speculative than is other feeding.

When selling prices of fed cattle rise gradually, the effects are opposite. A steady rise amounts to a greater total price increase over the 11 months of long-term feeding than the 6 months of short-term feeding. Profits are therefore upped more for long-term operations. As price trends the past 6 years were generally upward, this example illustrates why long-term feeding actually was the more profitable over that time.

These comparisons can be reversed to show how returns from various programs respond to unfavorable conditions. When higher prices must be paid for feeder steers, short feeders are hurt most. Higher costs of feed are a little more damaging to long-term feeders than short-termers, though differences are not great. A long, slow decline in fed steer prices can be very harmful to long-term feeders. Sharp, sudden declines affect all feeders, but short-termers suffer more than others. On a falling market, short-term operators find it necessary to buy and sell very carefully, trying to pick up bargains and to avoid selling during or after price breaks. Long-term feeders, on the other hand, must emphasize low cost of gain.

Digest of OPS and NPA Regulations Affecting Meat and Meat Animals

This list supplements those appearing in earlier issues of this Situation. These lists are compiled for their reference value now and in the future. Questions regarding the application of the regulations should be referred to the Agency administering them.

Issued by the Office of Price Stabilization, Economic Stabilization Agency

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Regulation 1 Revision 1, Amendment 4 Issued October 15, 1952 Effective October 20, 1952	Suspends the requirements that slaughterers report the number and liveweight of meat animals they slaughter.

Continued-

Regulation	Principal provisions
Distribution Regulation 1 Revision 1, Amendment 5 Issued November 24, 1952 Effective November 24, 1952	Relaxes registration requirements for slaughterers and eliminates most other restrictions imposed by DR 1.
DR2, Rev. 1 GCPR, SR79, Amendment 1 CPR 92, Amendment 10 Issued October 6, 1952 Effective October 6, 1952.	Suspends wholesale ceiling prices and eliminates the requirements on grading and grademarking of yearling mutton and mutton.
DR 2, Rev. 1, Amendment 1 CPR 92, Amendment 12 Issued October 29, 1952 Effective October 29, 1952	Suspends all wholesale ceiling prices on lamb, yearling and mutton. Also suspends grading and grademarking of lamb.
GCPR, SR 34 Rev., Amendment 2 CPR 24, Amendment 18 CPR 74, Amendment 12 CPR 92, Amendment 9 CPR 101, Amendment 8 Issued September 11, 1952 Effective September 16, 1952.	Transfers the control of exports of sausage, beef, pork, lamb, yearling, mutton and veal to CPR 61, which permits a more appropriate method for pricing in the export market.
GCPR, SR 65, Amendment 2 CPR 74, Amendment 13 Issued September 24, 1952 Effective September 29, 1952	Authorizes higher ceilings for certain processed pork products to reflect the seasonal increases granted in pork.
GCPR, SR 65, Amendment 3 GCPR, SR 79, Amendment 2 CPR 74, Amendment 16 Issued October 23, 1952 Effective October 28, 1952	Allowes retailers to calculate retail ceilings for pork, veal, lamb and mutton on a monthly or on a weekly basis, and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 23 Amendment 5 Issued September 25, 1952 Effective September 30, 1952	Suspends reporting requirements of CPR 23 (Drove Compliance Report) and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 19 Issued September 12, 1952 Effective September 16, 1952	Restores some steak items to the pricing schedule and makes several changes in definitions.
CPR 24, Amendment 20 CPR 74, Amendment 15 CPR 92, Amendment 11 CPR 101, Amendment 9 Issued October 10, 1952 Effective October 15, 1952	Discontinues the requirement of recording the class of buyer and seller on each record of a sale and substitutes a much simpler record keeping requirement.

Continued-

Regulation	Principal provisions
Ceiling Price Regulation 24 Amendment 21 Issued November 12, 1952 Effective November 17, 1952	Permits the sale of any imported ungraded boneless beef (Amdt. 17 authorized New Zealand beef) and makes other changes.
CPR 24, Amendment 22 CPR 74, Amendment 17 CPR 101, Amendment 10 Issued November 13, 1952 Effective November 18, 1952	Broadens the definition of combination distributor.
Ceiling Price Regulation 25 Revision 1, Amendment 5 Issued December 16, 1952 Effective December 22, 1952	Grants retailers of beef in Southeastern States (OPS retail pricing zones 19 and 24) small increase in ceiling prices by using the same level of prices as the Northeastern States (zones 17, 23 and 25), and makes other miscellaneous changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 14 Issued September 25, 1952 Effective September 30, 1952	Relaxes reporting requirements on sales to a defense agency and makes other changes.
Ceiling Price Regulation 74 Amendment 18 Issued November 24, 1952 Effective November 24, 1952	Suspends price controls of pork sold at wholesale.
General Overriding Regulation 36 Issued September 16, 1952 Effective September 22, 1952	Establishes the procedure whereby reporting requirements on sales made at prices below the ceiling price may be set aside.

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(Continued)

Concluded on page 30.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov.- 1951	Jan.-Nov.- 1952	1951 Nov.-	1952 Oct.-	1952 Nov.-	1952 Dec.-
Cattle and calves							
Beef steers, slaughter 2/	Dollars per						
Chicago, Prime	100 pounds	38.66	35.58	38.17	34.16	34.49	
Choice	do.	36.09	33.55	36.09	32.55	32.20	
Good	do.	33.36	30.49	33.03	28.59	28.08	
Commercial	do.	30.80	27.10	30.18	23.97	23.03	
Utility	do.	28.07	23.72	26.90	19.48	18.63	
All grades	do.	35.83	32.82	36.29	32.09	31.37	
Omaha, all grades	do.	34.35	31.35	34.45	30.08	29.32	
Sioux City, all grades	do.	34.41	31.47	34.12	31.19	30.36	
Cows, Chicago 2/							
Commercial	do.	27.99	22.29	27.22	18.49	14.99	
Utility	do.	24.65	19.99	22.96	15.94	14.68	
Canner and Cutter	do.	21.05	17.19	18.63	13.15	12.38	
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	37.30	34.90	35.90	33.14	31.40	
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	30.08	27.72	31.63	22.76	22.31	
Price received by farmers							
Beef cattle	do.	28.95	25.71	27.50	22.00	21.30	19.70
Veal calves	do.	32.30	28.85	30.50	23.80	23.60	22.40
Hogs							
Barrows and gilts							
Chicago							
160-180 pounds	do.	20.89	18.60	18.43	18.45	16.76	
180-200 pounds	do.	21.58	19.42	18.72	19.05	17.18	
200-220 pounds	do.	21.71	19.53	18.72	19.18	17.19	
220-240 pounds	do.	21.63	19.36	18.70	19.20	17.12	
240-270 pounds	do.	21.41	19.01	18.64	19.20	17.01	
270-300 pounds	do.	20.96	18.53	18.43	19.06	16.84	
All weights	do.	21.36	19.02	18.69	18.85	17.02	
Eight markets 3/	do.	21.11	18.85	18.40	18.60	16.82	
Sows, Chicago	do.	18.63	16.62	16.61	17.46	15.49	
Price received by farmers	do.	20.41	18.40	18.10	18.60	16.70	16.00
Hog-corn price ratio 4/							
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	12.0	10.7	10.2	11.9	10.8	
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	12.6	11.1	11.2	12.2	11.5	10.7
Sheep and lambs							
Sheep							
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	17.84	10.75	13.67	5/6.45	7.00	
Price received by farmers	do.	16.48	11.08	14.40	7.73	7.25	7.49
Lambs							
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	34.63	27.88	30.80	6/24.78	22.75	
Feeding, Good and Choice, Omaha	do.	7/32.18	8/22.75	31.31	21.25	20.50	
Price received by farmers	do.	33.24	25.22	29.00	22.20	20.90	19.50
All meat animals							
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		414	364	387	328	310	291
Meat							
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per						
Steer beef carcass, Choice, 500-600 pounds 2/	100 pounds	56.43	54.32	57.25	53.62	52.40	
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	57.21	56.16	60.35	53.22	48.07	
Composite hog products, including lard							
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	23.16	20.19	20.16	19.59	18.32	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	31.80	27.72	27.68	26.89	25.15	
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	26.20	23.66	23.53	23.71	21.82	
Average per 100 pounds	do.	36.74	33.17	32.99	33.24	30.59	
Retail, United States average	Cents						
Beef, Good grade	per pound	85.4	86.4	89.0	85.4	84.4	
Lamb	do.	77.0	75.9	80.4	73.7	69.2	
Pork, including lard	do.	45.2	41.4	43.9	42.8	40.1	
Index number meat prices (BLS)							
Wholesale (1947-49 = 100)		119	111	118	106	102	
Retail (1935-39=100) 9/		274	273	279	274	264	

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1951.
2/ Grade names as used beginning January 1951.
3/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis.
4/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.
5/ Shorn ewes.
6/ Wooled lambs.
7/ Prices for January, August, September, October and November.
8/ Prices for July, August, September, October and November.
9/ Index of retail meat prices, new weights.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.-Nov. 1951	Jan.-Nov. 1952	1951 Nov.	1952 Oct.	1952 Nov.	1952 Dec.
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		150	155	190	204	184	
Stocker and feeder shipments to 9 Corn Belt States	1,000 head						
Cattle and calves	1,000 head	3,312	3,877	479	1,117	691	
Sheep and lambs	do.	3,575	3,457	322	830	335	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	do.	10,881	11,913	1,122	1,390	1,151	
Calves	do.	4,641	4,771	457	602	510	
Sheep and lambs	do.	9,246	11,476	922	1,427	1,069	
Hogs	do.	55,143	55,200	6,531	5,492	5,772	
Percentage sows	Percent						
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	Pounds	991	990	990	968	975	
Calves	do.	210	221	231	248	235	
Sheep and lambs	do.	98	97	100	94	96	
Hogs	do.	246	243	236	229	236	
Average production							
Beef, per head	do.	544	547	528	520	520	
Veal, per head	do.	118	124	126	136	130	
Lamb and mutton, per head	do.	46	46	47	44	45	
Pork, per head 2/	do.	137	135	131	130	133	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/	do.	55	56	55	57	56	
Lard, per head	do.	36	36	34	32	34	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight	do.	15	15	14	14	14	
Total production	Million pounds						
Beef	Million pounds	5,885	6,483	588	720	596	
Veal	do.	544	590	57	82	66	
Lamb and mutton	do.	427	525	43	62	48	
Pork 2/	do.	7,501	7,426	851	715	766	
Lard	do.	1,979	1,978	221	176	194	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	1,000 head						
Cattle	1,000 head	15,052	16,214	1,515	1,869	1,541	
Calves	do.	7,816	8,052	753	964	820	
Sheep and lambs	do.	10,191	12,634	1,014	1,572	1,180	
Hogs	do.	67,777	68,919	7,856	6,878	7,098	
Total production	Million pounds						
Beef	Million pounds	7,850	8,484	768	933	768	
Veal	do.	904	982	91	128	105	
Lamb and mutton	do.	467	573	47	60	52	
Pork 2/	do.	9,113	9,145	1,023	894	936	
Lard	do.	2,286	2,319	254	208	227	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	do.	---	---	125	172	198	227
Veal	do.	---	---	11	12	16	22
Lamb and mutton	do.	---	---	10	13	16	19
Pork	do.	---	---	276	291	235	312
Total meat and meat products 4/	do.	---	---	499	587	557	682

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.
2/ Excludes lard.
3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.
4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
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